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Shah

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(54) **LISTING SERVICES WITHIN A NETWORKED ENVIRONMENT**

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- G06Q 30/06** (2012.01)
- H04L 29/06** (2006.01)
- G06Q 10/10** (2012.01)
- G01S 5/02** (2010.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **G06Q 30/0633** (2013.01); **G01S 5/02** (2013.01); **G01S 5/0284** (2013.01); **G06Q 10/1095** (2013.01); **H04L 63/08** (2013.01); **H04L 63/10** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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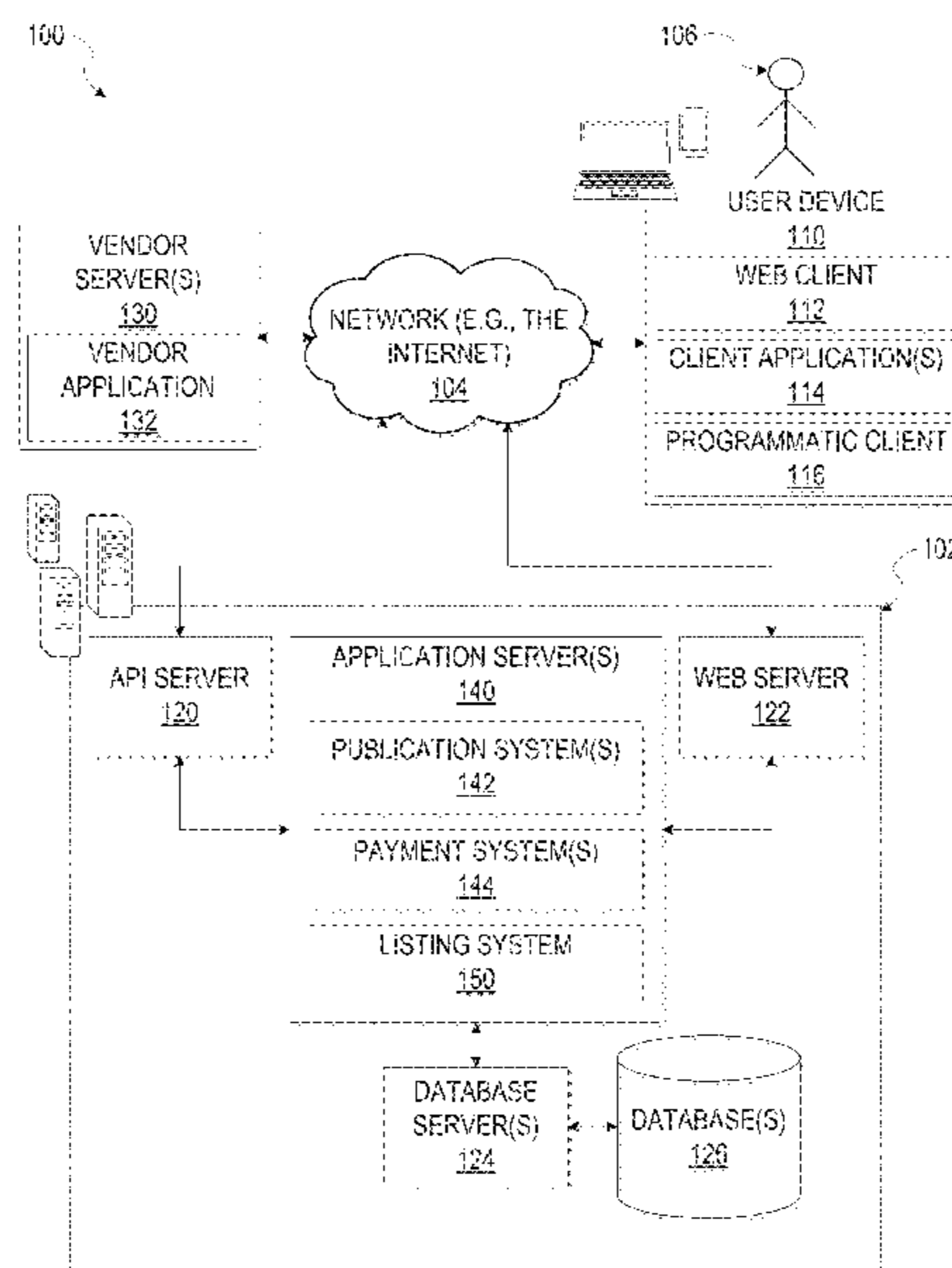
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

In various example embodiments, a system and method for digital lists of items are presented. An authentication interface module authenticates a first user device to authorize access to listing services of a web resource of a registered vendor. The web resource can generate an add-item request in response to user input from authorized user devices. The add-item request is linked to a first item of a vendor-item list. A list management module updates a selected-item list to include the first item of the vendor-item list and a notification attribute. A notification management module detects a notification event of the first item based on the notification attribute. In response to a detection of a notification event of the first item, the notification management module provides a notification message to one or more user devices linked to the first user account.

20 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets



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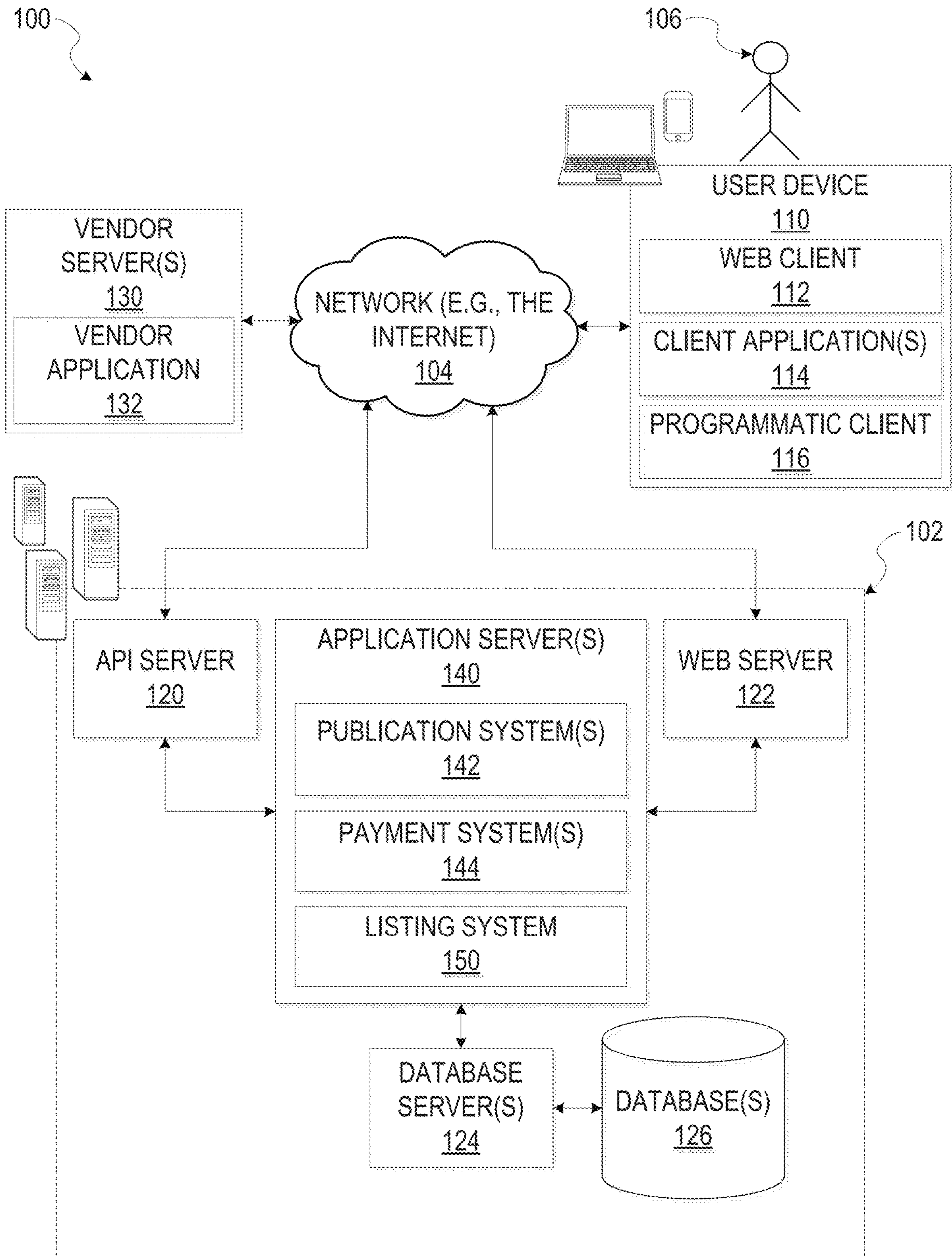


FIG. 1

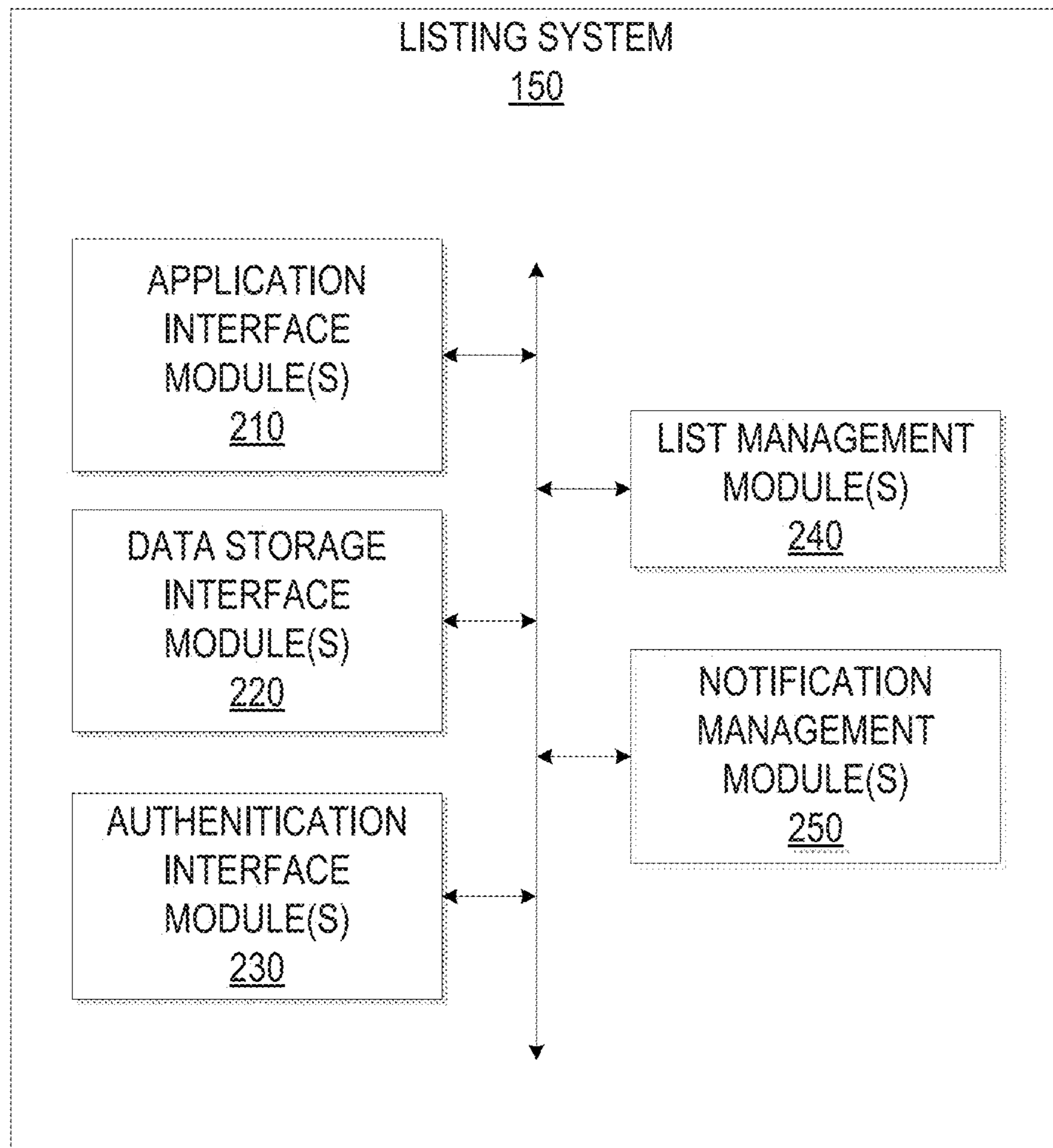


FIG. 2

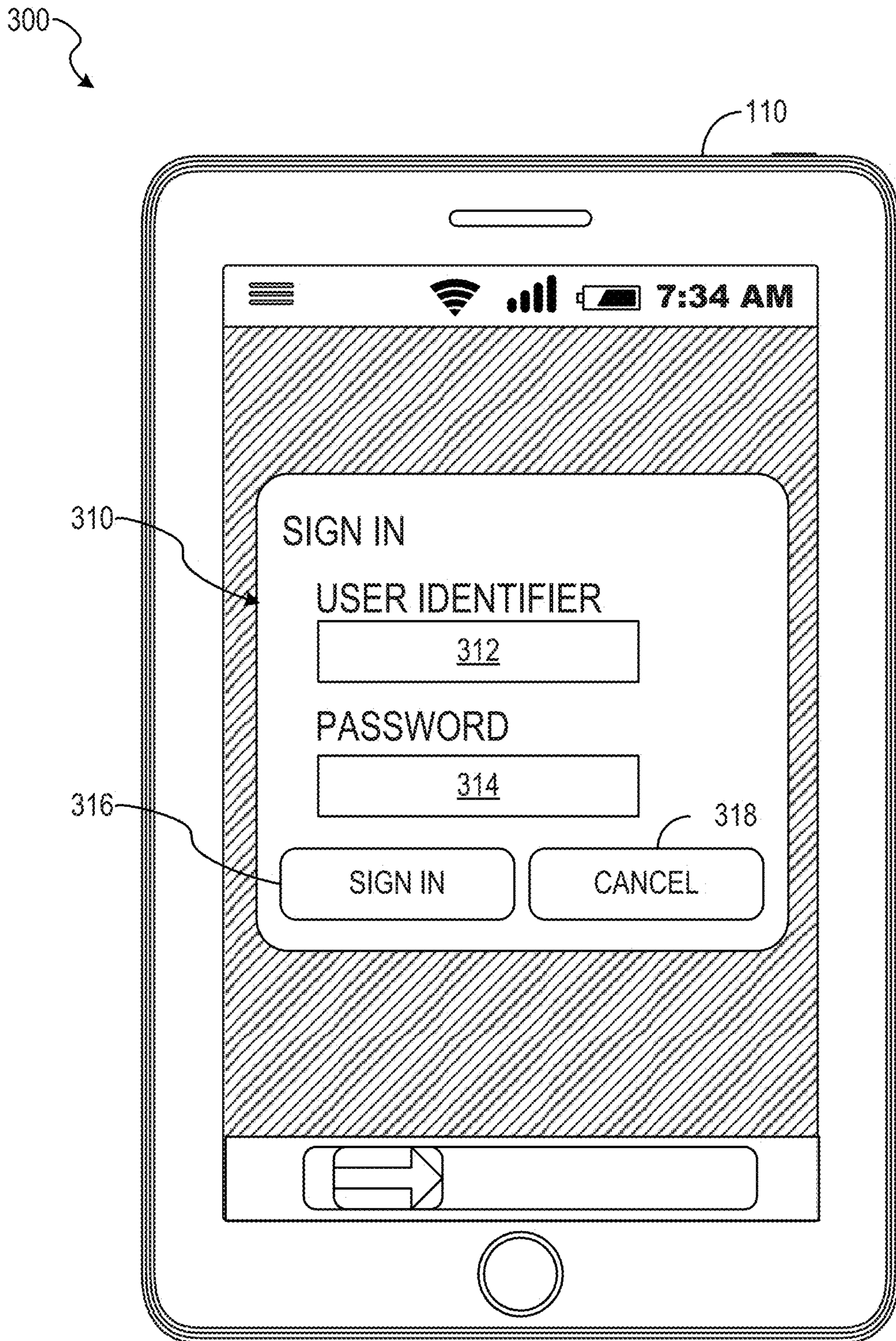


FIG. 3

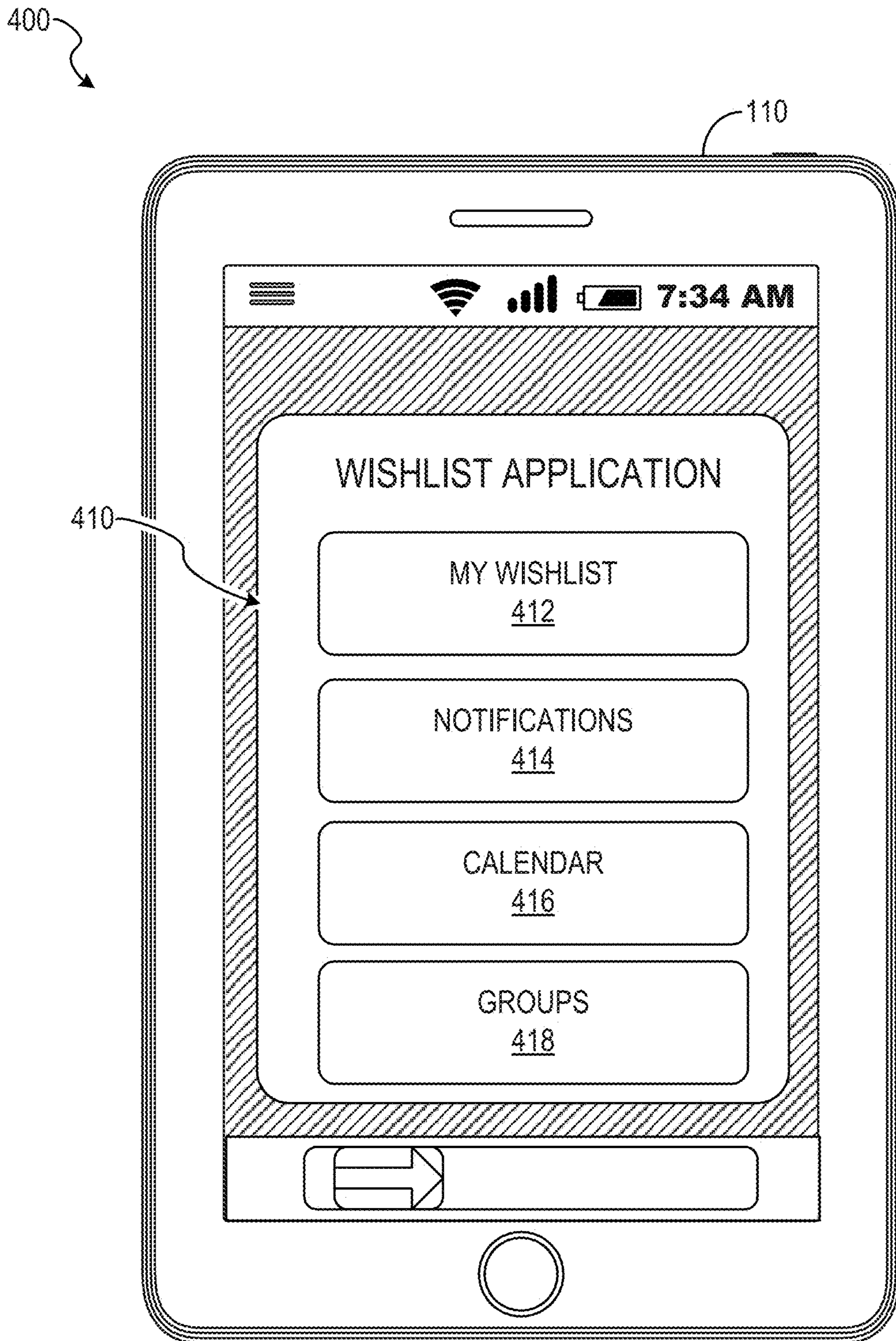


FIG. 4

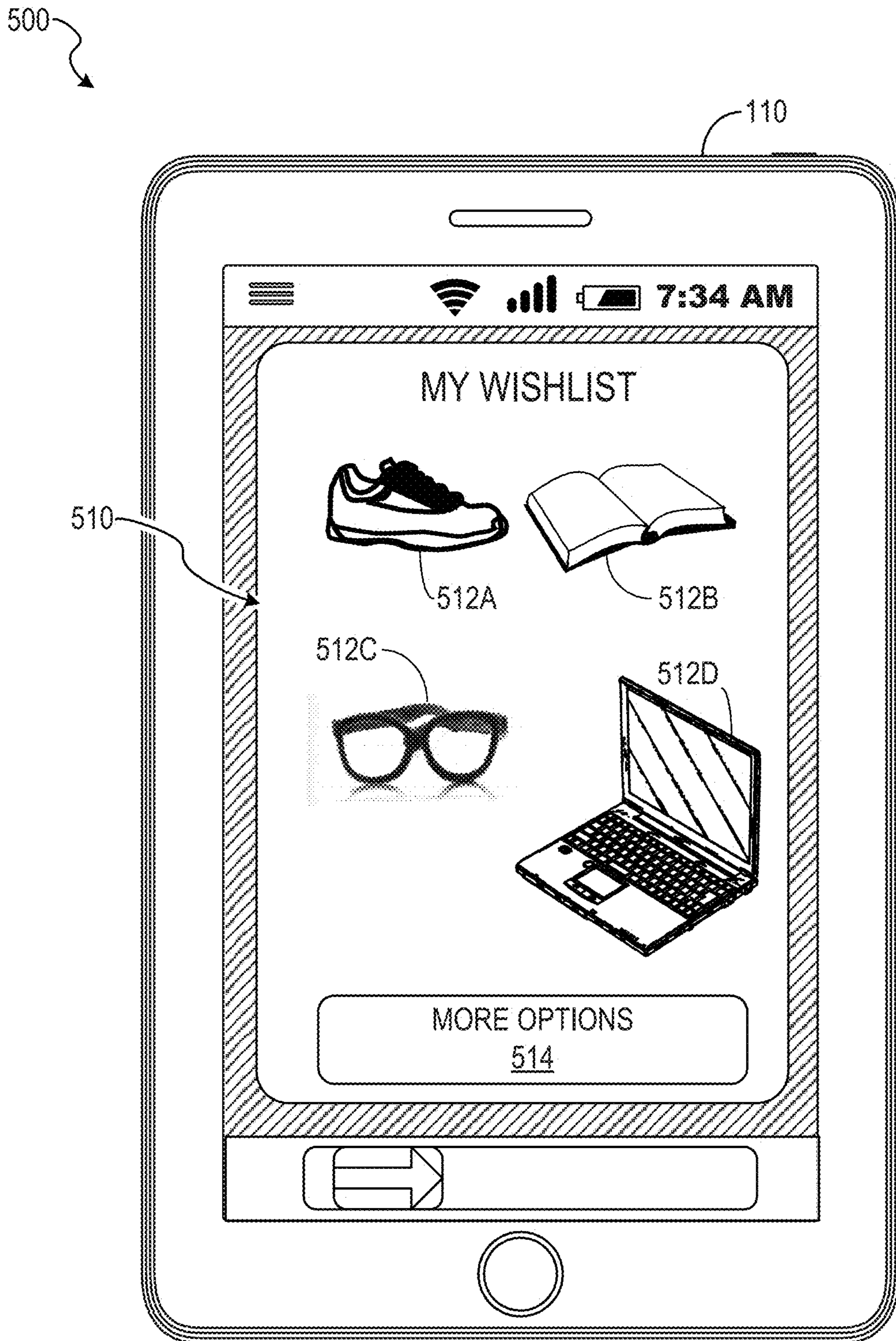


FIG. 5

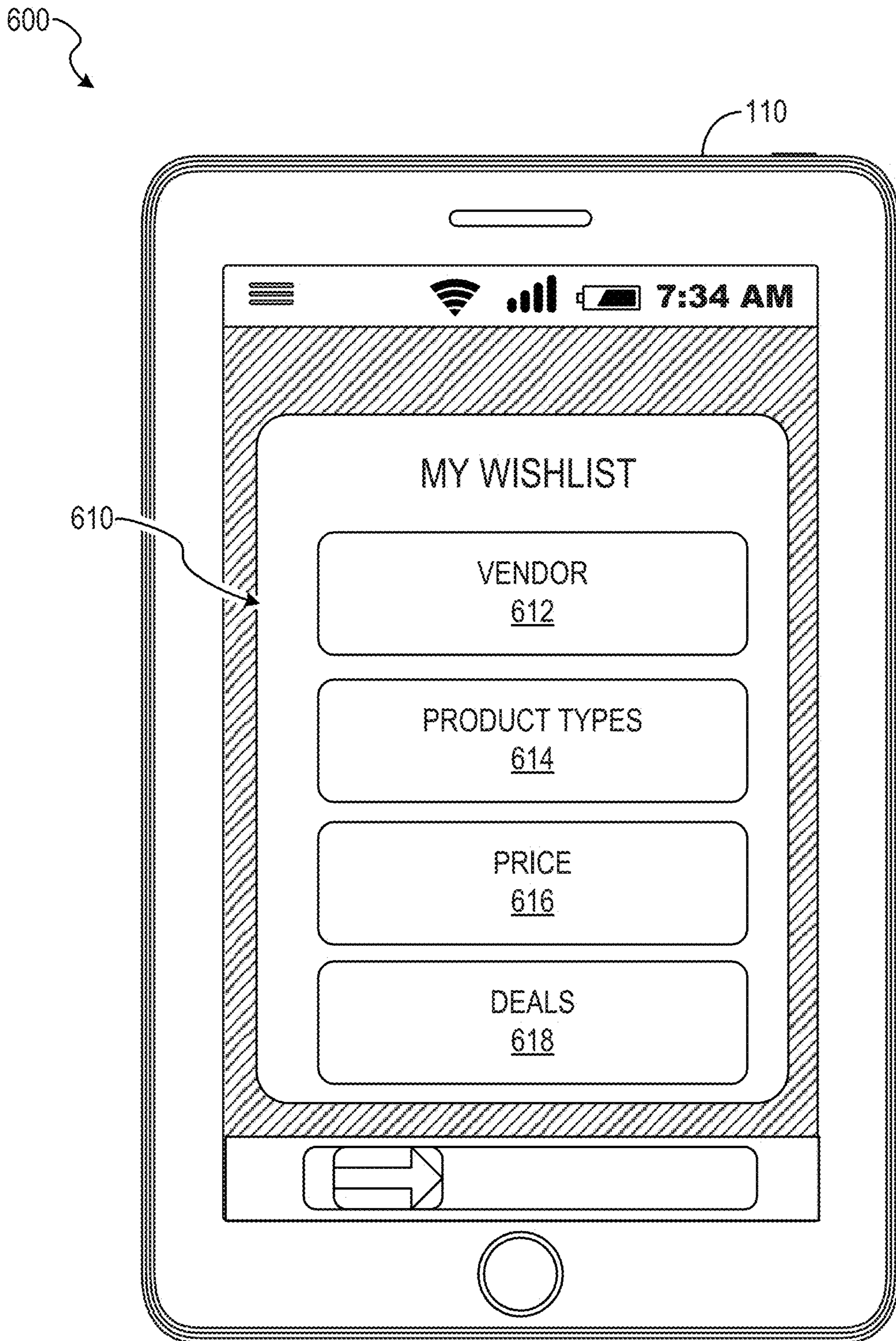


FIG. 6

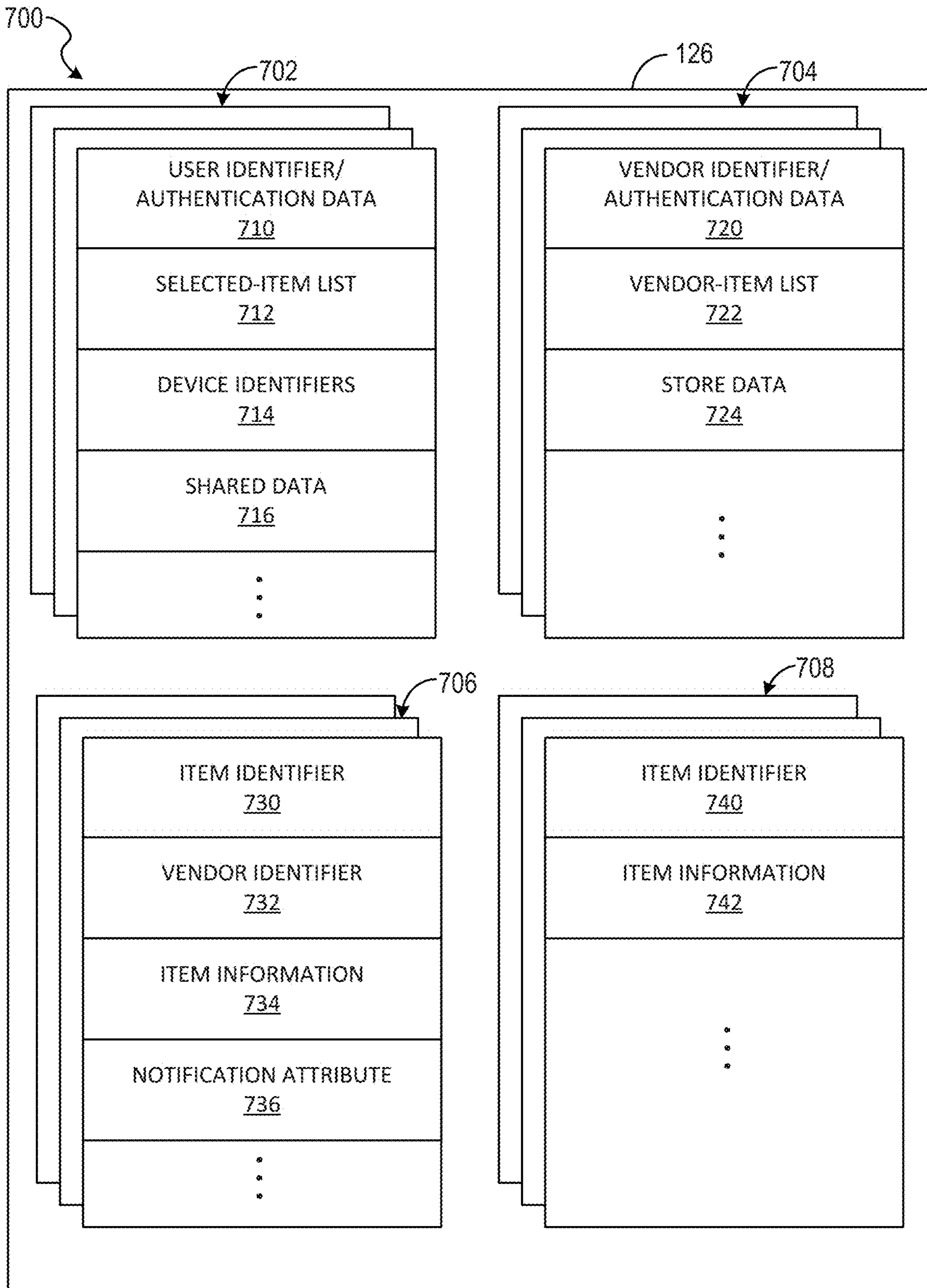


FIG. 7

800

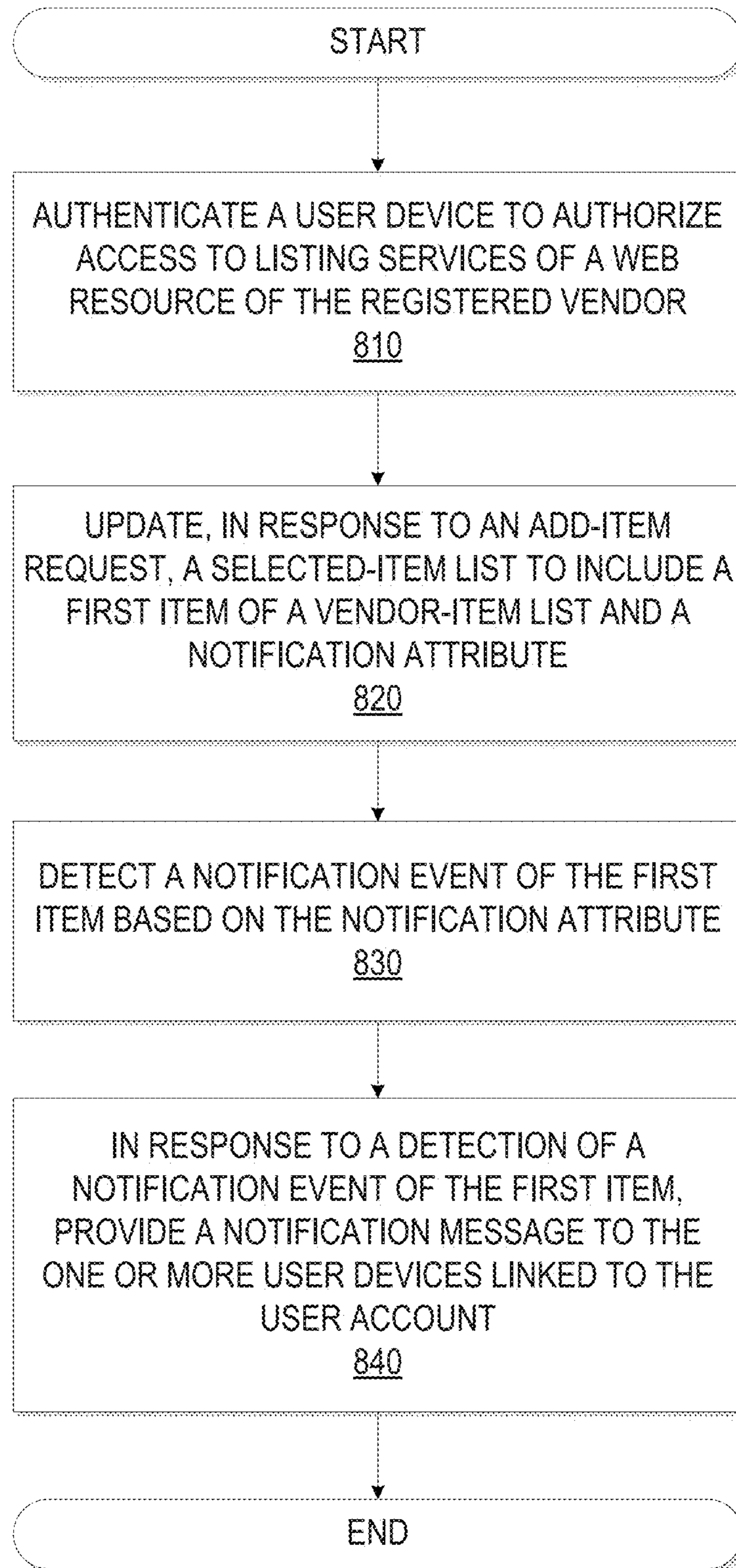


FIG. 8

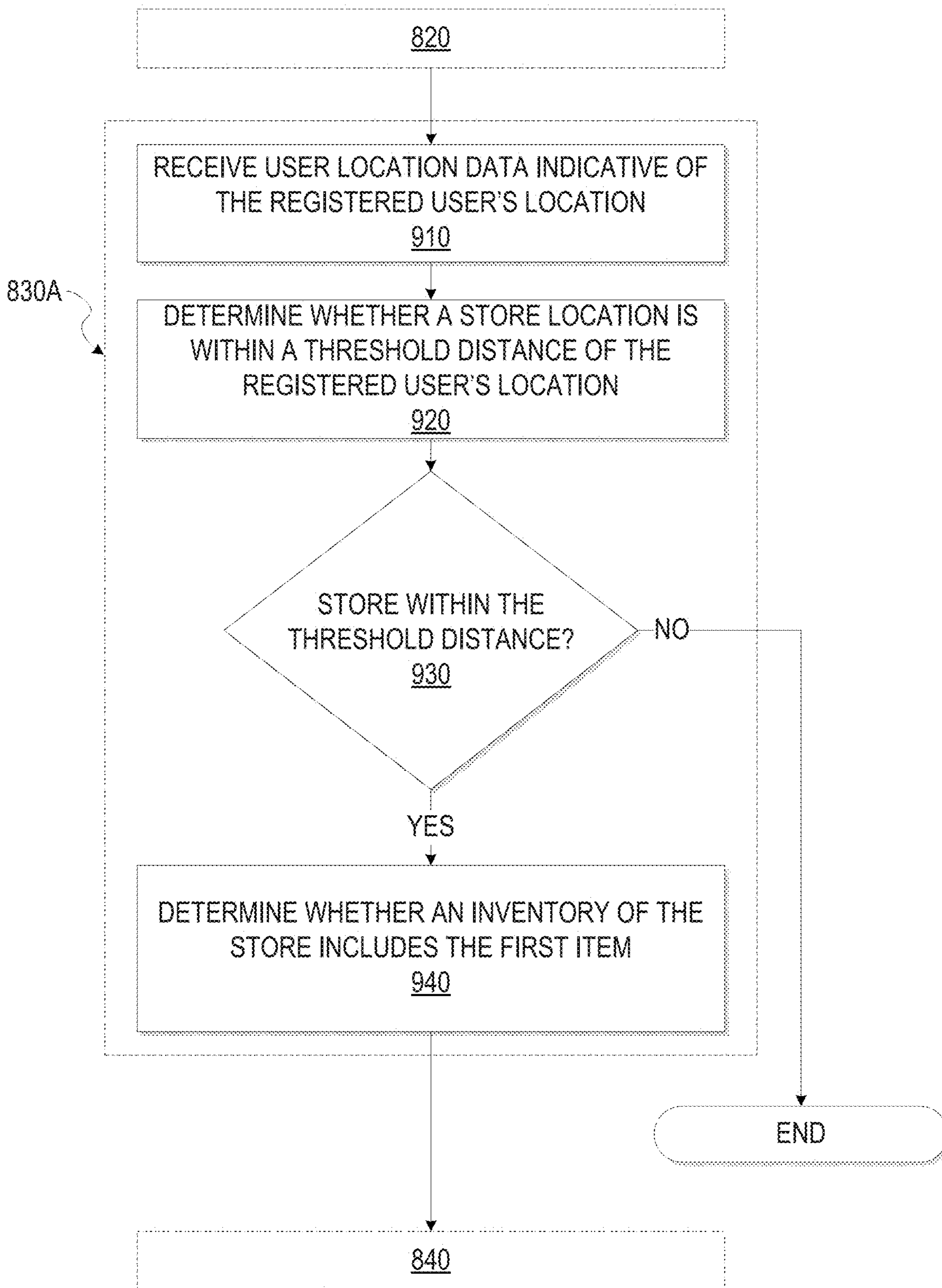


FIG. 9

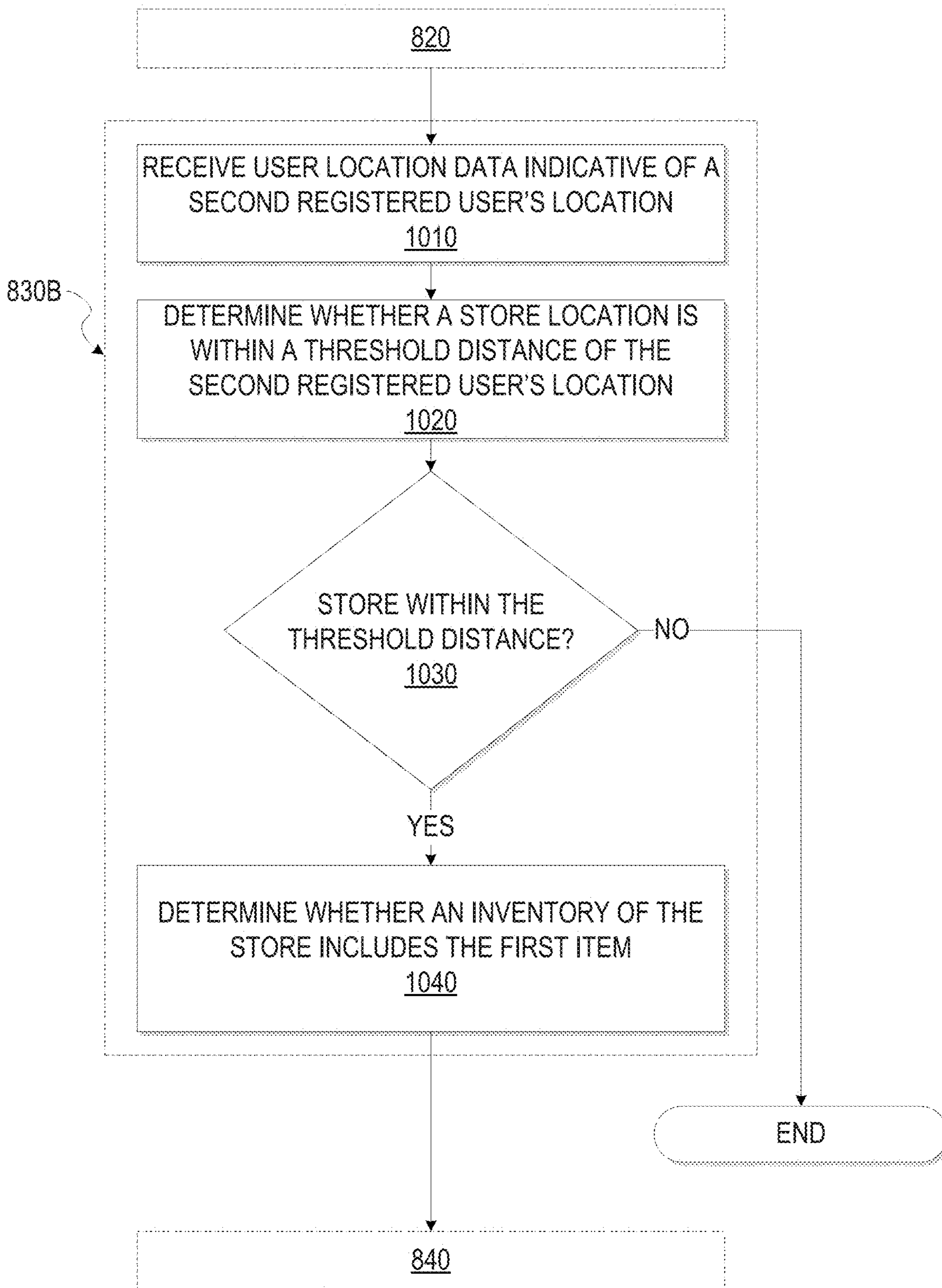


FIG. 10

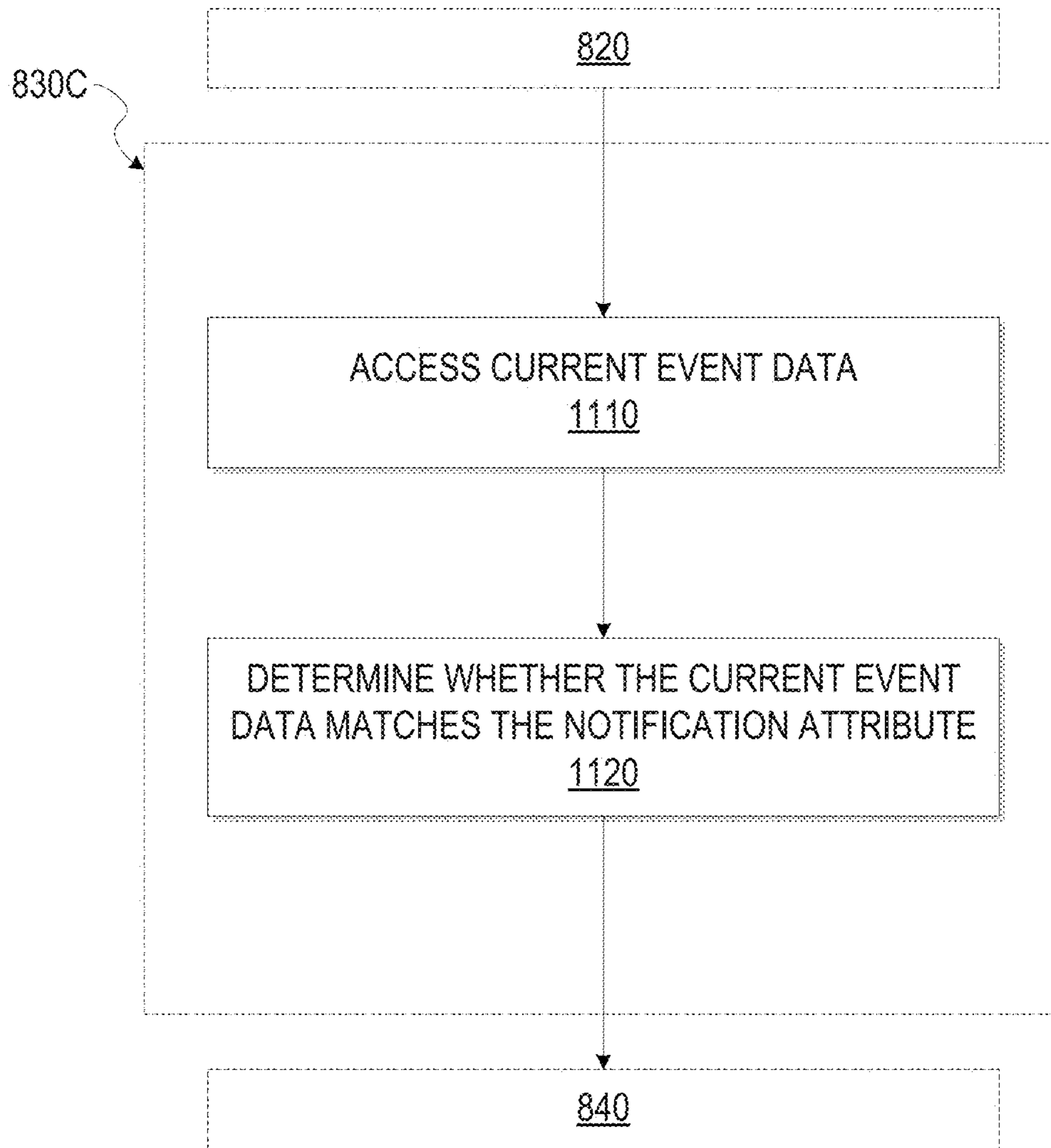


FIG. 11

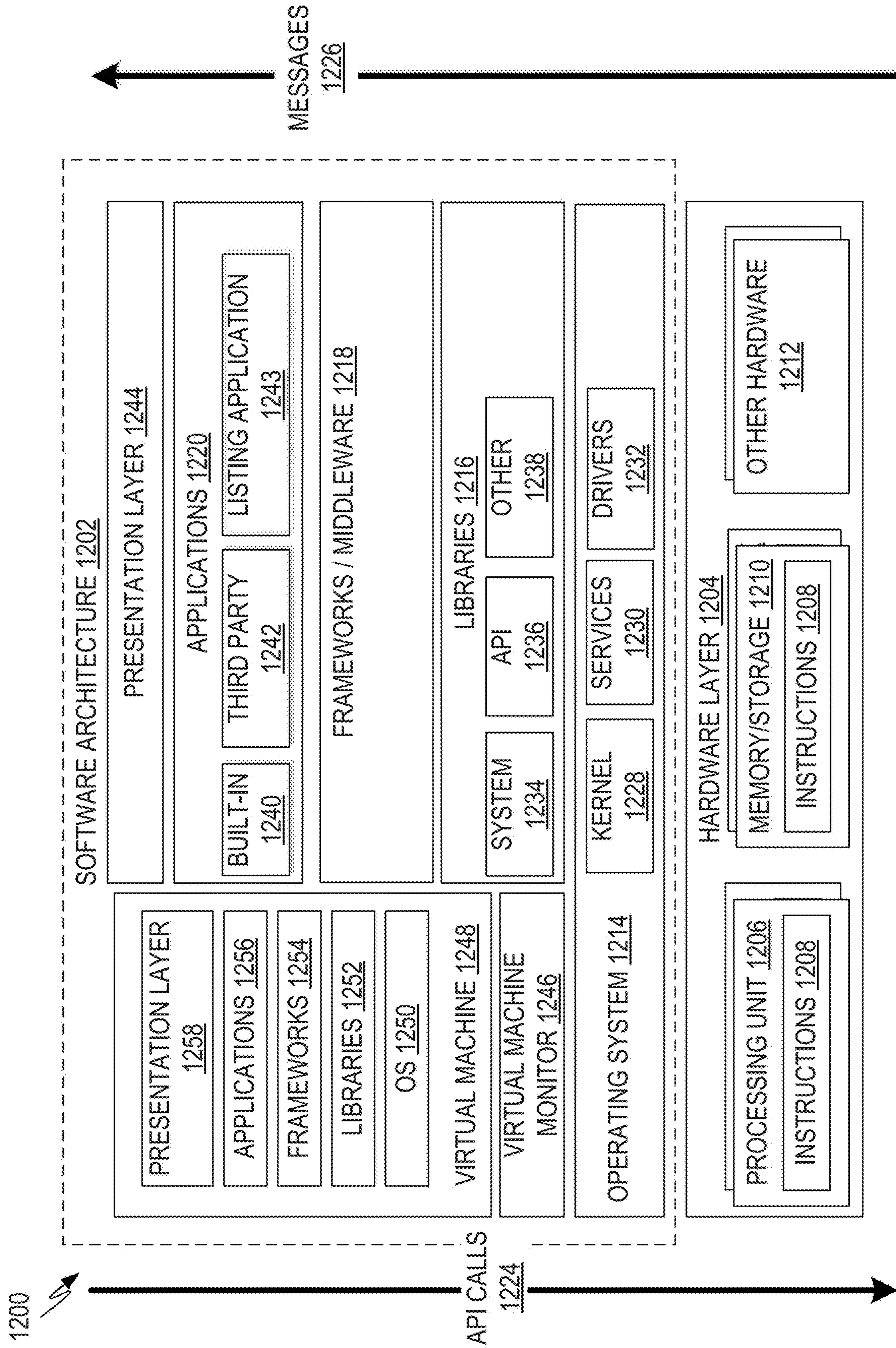


FIG. 12

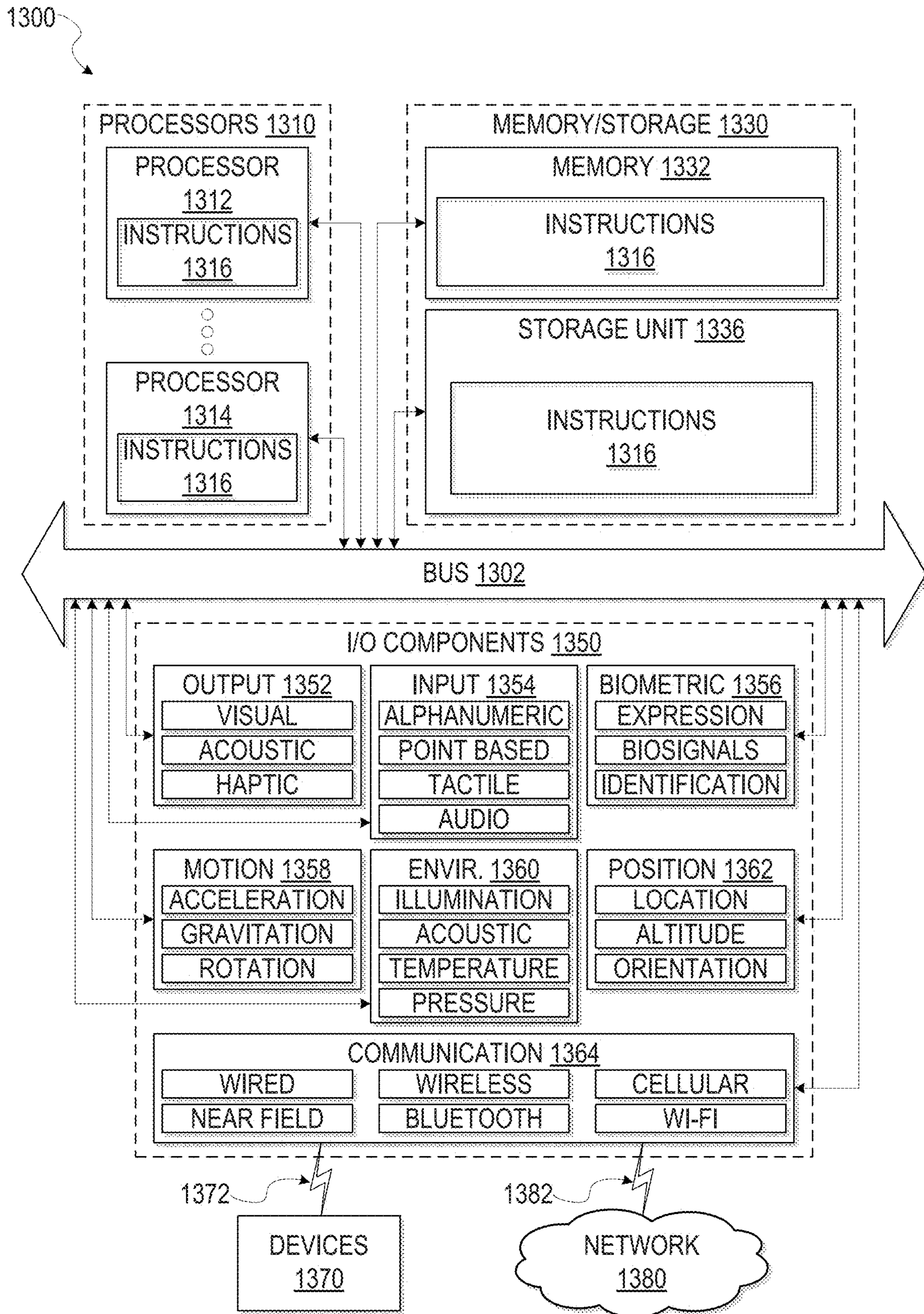


FIG. 13

1**LISTING SERVICES WITHIN A NETWORKED ENVIRONMENT**

TECHNICAL FIELD

Embodiments of the present disclosure relate generally to data processing and, more particularly, but not by way of limitation, to listing services within a network environment.

BACKGROUND

Conventionally, an online marketplace can provide listing services, such as so-called wish lists or gift registries. For example, a user can browse a website of the online marketplace and select one or more items or products to be included in a digital list that is linked to the user account of the user. The online marketplace stores the digital list for later retrieval by the user. The digital list may include information about the selected items, such as a price offered for each item. The user can access the online marketplace to view the digital list to be reminded of items that the user has added to the digital list.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Various ones of the appended drawings merely illustrate example embodiments of the present disclosure and cannot be considered as limiting its scope.

FIG. 1 is a block diagram illustrating a networked system, according to some example embodiments.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating an example embodiment of the listing system of FIG. 1 including multiple modules forming at least a portion of the client-server system of FIG. 1.

FIGS. 3-6 are interface diagrams illustrating example user interfaces of a web resource with multiple display elements delivered to the user device by the listing system, according to an example embodiment.

FIG. 7 is a block diagram illustrating an example data memory system including a number of data structures of the listing system, in accordance with an example embodiment.

FIG. 8 is a flowchart illustrating an example method of providing notifications, in accordance with an example embodiment.

FIGS. 9-11 are flowcharts illustrating example methods of detecting a notification event of FIG. 8, in accordance with an example embodiment.

FIG. 12 is a block diagram illustrating an example of a software architecture that may be installed on a machine, according to some example embodiments.

FIG. 13 illustrates a diagrammatic representation of a machine in the form of a computer system within which a set of instructions may be executed for causing the machine to perform any one or more of the methodologies discussed herein, according to an example embodiment.

The headings provided herein are merely for convenience and do not necessarily affect the scope or meaning of the terms used.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The description that follows includes systems, methods, techniques, instruction sequences, and computing machine program products that embody illustrative embodiments of the disclosure. In the following description, for the purposes of explanation, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide an understanding of various embodiments

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of the inventive subject matter. It will be evident, however, to those skilled in the art, that embodiments of the inventive subject matter may be practiced without these specific details. In general, well-known instruction instances, protocols, structures, and techniques are not necessarily shown in detail.

In various example embodiments, a listing system provides to users listing services, such as creating, storing, and providing digital lists (also referred to a “selected-item list” herein). The listing system interfaces with multiple vendors and users, as well as multiple user devices of each user. For example, vendors can register vendor accounts that include information regarding one or more items of the respective vendors. Additionally, users can register user accounts for accessing and facilitating listing services provided by the listing system. Registered users can select items of the vendors to generate selected-item lists (e.g., digital wish lists). Accordingly, selected items from different vendors can be organized within a single list.

The listing system provides data access to registered vendors and registered users over a network, such as the Internet. Furthermore, the listing system presents to users a bi-directional, single-sign-on interface deployed by a software application or a website. The bi-directional, single-sign-on interface serves to connect the plurality of browsing devices of a user to a plurality of registered vendors in an efficient manner. Moreover, the digital list can be stored using a network cloud data service to provide access to devices connected to the network.

Registered users add items to their selected-item lists in a number of ways. In one way, a registered user can add an item to a selected-item list by scanning an item or a tag of the item in-store using, for example, a mobile device interfaced with the listing system. In an example embodiment, users can add items of a registered vendor to a selected-item list by scanning a bar-code or any suitable identifier using a camera or sensor of a mobile device in-store. The mobile device can use the bi-directional, single-sign-on interface to send add-item requests to the listing system. The selected-item list is updated by adding the selected item.

In another way, registered users can add items to a list by selecting the items online in an online marketplace of a registered vendor. For example, registered users can browse items of the online marketplace using a mobile application, a website of a registered vendor, or a software application of the listing system.

In example embodiments, the bi-directional, single sign-on interface allows the user to log into any of these applications and websites using the same login information. List data can be stored in a centralized and secured repository so that users can access their lists using a plurality of user devices. Furthermore, the listing system can provide push and/or pull notifications based on GPS location, proximity from store, event, time, etc. Additionally or alternatively, users can share list data and/or notifications with other people.

In one aspect, among others, some example embodiments described herein can improve data organization and can improve converting added items to sales. For example, an online shopper can forget to visit a physical store to view an item that the online shopper was interested in but was hesitant to buy online without first seeing the item. Moreover, users can generate multiple lists that are stored on separate devices and/or hosted by different vendors. The multiple lists can make it difficult for the lists to be used as a way to remind the user about the item. The listing system disclosed herein provides a single list for multiple vendors

and sends notification messages to remind the user and/or provide offers to the user. For example, the listing system can provide a notification message to the user when the user is within a proximity of a store that has an item on the user's selected-item list. Furthermore, the listing system sends notifications to the user when a sale or other event impacts purchase price, availability (e.g., a selected item becomes available or its local inventory becomes less than a predetermined threshold), calendar event, and/or the like characteristics that affect a user's ability to acquire the item and/or affects the timing of a user's decision to purchase (reminder of an upcoming anniversary, birthday, business trip, and so forth).

With reference to FIG. 1, an example embodiment of a high-level client-server-based network architecture 100 is shown. A networked system 102, in the example forms of a network-based marketplace or payment system, provides server-side functionality via a network 104 (e.g., the Internet or wide area network (WAN)) to one or more user device 110 (also referred to as a "client device"). FIG. 1 illustrates, for example, a web client 112 (e.g., a browser, such as the Internet Explorer® browser developed by Microsoft® Corporation of Redmond, Wash. State), client application(s) 114, and a programmatic client 116 executing on user device 110.

The user device 110 may comprise, but are not limited to, a mobile phone, desktop computer, laptop, portable digital assistants (PDAs), smart phones, tablets, ultra books, netbooks, laptops, multi-processor systems, microprocessor-based or programmable consumer electronics, game consoles, set-top boxes, or any other communication device that a user may utilize to access the networked system 102. In some embodiments, the user device 110 may comprise a display module (not shown) to display information (e.g., in the form of user interfaces). In further embodiments, the user device 110 may comprise one or more of a touch screen, accelerometer, gyroscope, camera, microphone, global positioning system (GPS) device, and so forth. The user device 110 may be a device that is used by a user to perform a transaction involving digital items within the networked system 102. In one embodiment, the networked system 102 is a network-based marketplace that responds to requests for product listings, publishes publications comprising item listings of products available on the network-based marketplace, and manages payments for these marketplace transactions. One or more user 106 may be a person, a machine, or other means of interacting with user device 110. In embodiments, the user 106 is not part of the network architecture 100, but may interact with the network architecture 100 via user device 110 or another means. For example, one or more portions of network 104 may be an ad hoc network, an intranet, an extranet, a virtual private network (VPN), a local area network (LAN), a wireless LAN (WLAN), a wide area network (WAN), a wireless WAN (WWAN), a metropolitan area network (MAN), a portion of the Internet, a portion of the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), a cellular telephone network, a wireless network, a WiFi network, a WiMax network, another type of network, or a combination of two or more such networks.

Each user device 110 may include one or more applications (also referred to as "apps") such as, but not limited to, a web browser, messaging application, electronic mail (email) application, e-commerce site application (also referred to as a marketplace application), and the like. In some embodiments, if the e-commerce site application is included in a given user device 110, then this application is

configured to locally provide the user interface and at least some of the functionalities with the application configured to communicate with the networked system 102, on an as-needed basis, for data and/or processing capabilities not locally available (e.g., access to a database of items available for sale, to authenticate a user, to verify a method of payment, etc.). Conversely, if the e-commerce site application is not included in the user device 110, the user device 110 may use its web browser to access the e-commerce site (or a variant thereof) hosted on the networked system 102.

One or more users 106 may be a person, a machine, or other means of interacting with the user device 110. In example embodiments, the user 106 is not part of the network architecture 100, but may interact with the network architecture 100 via the user device 110 or other means. For instance, the user 106 provides input (e.g., touch screen input or alphanumeric input) to the user device 110 and the input is communicated to the networked system 102 via the network 104. In this instance, the networked system 102, in response to receiving the input from the user 106, communicates information to the user device 110 via the network 104 to be presented to the user 106. In this way, the user 106 interacts with the networked system 102 using the user device 110.

An application program interface (API) server 120 and a web server 122 are coupled to, and provide programmatic and web interfaces respectively to, one or more application server 140. The application server(s) 140 may host one or more publication system 142 and payment system 144, each of which may comprise one or more modules or applications and each of which may be embodied as hardware, software, firmware, or any combination thereof. The application server(s) 140 are, in turn, shown to be coupled to one or more database server 124 that facilitate access to one or more information storage repositories or database(s) 126. In an example embodiment, the database(s) 126 is a storage device that stores information to be posted (e.g., publications or listings) to the publication system(s) 142. The database(s) 126 may also store digital item information in accordance with example embodiments.

Additionally, a vendor application 132, executing on vendor server(s) 130, is shown as having programmatic access to the networked system 102 via the programmatic interface provided by the API server 120. For example, the vendor application 132, utilizing information retrieved from the networked system 102, supports one or more features or functions on a website hosted by the vendor. The vendor website, for example, provides one or more promotional, marketplace, or payment functions that are supported by the relevant applications of the networked system 102.

The publication system(s) 142 may provide a number of publication functions and services to a user 106 that accesses the networked system 102. The payment system(s) 144 may likewise provide a number of functions to perform or facilitate payments and transactions. While the publication system(s) 142 and payment system(s) 144 are shown in FIG. 1 to both form part of the networked system 102, it will be appreciated that, in alternative embodiments, each system 142 and 144 may form part of a payment service that is separate and distinct from the networked system 102. In some embodiments, the payment system(s) 144 may form part of the publication system 142.

The listing system 150 provides functionality operable to perform various listing services using the user provided data. For example, the listing system 150 may access the user selected data from the databases 126, the vendor server(s) 130, the publication system(s) 142, and other

sources. One or more vendor server **130** register vendor accounts with the listing system **150**. As will be described in greater detail later below, vendor accounts include data representing a number of vendor items or an inventory of an online marketplace or a physical inventory. Accordingly, a registered vendor is a vendor with a vendor account.

Similarly, a registered user is a user with a user account. One or more user **106** register respective user accounts with the listing system **150**. Moreover, each user **106** accesses the user's user account with one or more devices, such as the user device **106**, to access selected-item list data. In this way, the listing system **150** provides centralized account data that is accessible by the user devices of the user **106**.

Additionally or alternatively, the listing system **150** links the user's **106** activities on one device with the multiple devices of the user **106**. As an illustrative example, the user **106** adds items using a desktop computer at home and then receives notifications for the added item based on the user's location as determined by the user's **106** mobile device. In example embodiments, the listing system **150** stores device identifiers for tracking and/or addressing the devices of the user **106**. For example, device identifiers can be used to facilitate the sending of notifications to each user device **106**.

In operation, the user **106** browses one or more online marketplaces provided by the vendor server(s) **130** and/or the application server(s) **140**. The user device **110** provides to the listing system **150** an add item request to add a selected vendor item of a registered vendor to the selected-item list of the user **106**. In turn, the listing system **150** accesses the corresponding vendor account and add the vendor item to the selected-item list linked to the user **106**. Furthermore, the listing system **150** receives user input that specifies one or more notification attributes. Notification attributes correspond to location-based and/or event-based attributes that specify a notification event that triggers a notification to be sent to the user **106**. Accordingly, the listing system **150** monitors for notification events specified by the notification attributes. In response to detecting a notification event, the listing system **150** provides to the user devices **110** linked to the registered user **106** a notification message(s). Notification attributes and notification events will be described in greater detail in connection with FIGS. **2**, **7-11**.

In example embodiments, the notification message includes a textual, graphical, and/or audible message that provides a reminder to the user **106** of the item of the selected-item list. Additionally or alternatively, the notification message includes an offer or discount for the item of the selected-item list. Additionally or alternatively, the notification message includes a graphical interface element that can be selected to share the notification with another user and/or a graphical interface element that can be selected to have the items delivered to the user.

Further, while the client-server-based network architecture **100** shown in FIG. **1** employs a client-server architecture, the present inventive subject matter is of course not limited to such an architecture, and could equally well find application in a distributed, or peer-to-peer, architecture system, for example. The various publication system(s) **142**, payment system(s) **144**, and listing system **150** could also be implemented as standalone software programs, which do not necessarily have networking capabilities.

The web client **112** may access the various publication and payment systems **142** and **144** via the web interface supported by the web server **122**. Similarly, the programmatic client **116** accesses the various services and functions

provided by the publication and payment systems **142** and **144** via the programmatic interface provided by the API server **120**. The programmatic client **116** may, for example, be a seller application (e.g., the Turbo Lister application developed by eBay® Inc., of San Jose, Calif.) to enable sellers to author and manage listings on the networked system **102** in an off-line manner, and to perform batch-mode communications between the programmatic client **116** and the networked system **102**.

FIG. **2** is a block diagram illustrating an example embodiment of the listing system **150** of FIG. **1** including multiple modules forming at least a portion of the network architecture **100** of FIG. **1**. The modules **210-250** of the illustrated listing system **150** include an application interface module(s) **210**, a data storage interface module(s) **220**, an authentication interface module(s) **230**, a list management module(s) **240**, and a notification management module(s) **250**. In some embodiments, the components of the listing system **150** are included in the application server(s) **140** of FIG. **1**. However, it will be appreciated that in alternative embodiments, one or more components of the listing system **150** described below are included, additionally or alternatively, in other devices, such as one or more of the user device **110** and/or the vendor server(s) **130** of FIG. **1**. It will also be appreciated that the listing system **150** are deployed in systems other than online marketplaces.

The modules **210-250** of the listing system **150** are hosted on dedicated or shared server machines (not shown) that are communicatively coupled to enable communications between server machines. One or more of the modules **210-250** are deployed in one or more datacenters. Each of the modules **210-250** is communicatively coupled (e.g., via appropriate interfaces) to the other modules **210-250** and to various data sources, so as to allow information to be passed between the modules **210-250** of the listing system **150** or so as to allow the modules **210-250** to share and access common data. The various modules **210-250** of the listing system **150** furthermore access one or more database **126** via the database server(s) **124**.

The application interface module(s) **210** is a hardware-implemented module that facilitates communication of data between the listing system **150** and the user device **110**, the vendor server(s) **130**, and other devices connected to the network **104**. In particular, the application interface module(s) **210** provides a user-facing side for interfacing with one or more user devices **110** and a vendor-facing side for interfacing with one or more vendor server(s) **130**, thus providing a bi-directional interface. For example, with reference to FIG. **1**, the application interface module(s) **210** interfaces with the API server **120** to provide a pragmatic interface to the client application **114** and/or the programmatic client **116**, and/or to provide a web interface to the web client **112**. As such, the application interface module(s) **210** facilitates the providing of functions, webpages, data, code, and/or the like web resources between the listing system **150** and the web client **112**, the client application(s) **114**, and/or the programmatic client **116**, as described in greater detail below.

As stated, the application interface module(s) **210** includes a vendor-facing side for interfacing with one or more vendor server **130**. For example, the application interface module(s) **210** interfaces with the API server **120** to provide a pragmatic interface to the vendor application **132** and/or to provide a web interface to the vendor application client **112**. As such, the application interface module(s) **210** facilitates the providing of functions, webpages, data, code,

and/or the like web resources between the listing system **150** and the vendor application, as described in greater detail below.

The data storage interface module(s) **220** is a hardware-implemented module that facilitates accessing data for the listing system **150**. In an example embodiment, the data storage interface module(s) **220** interfaces with the database(s) **126** of FIG. **1** to access one or more user accounts, vendor accounts, selected-item lists, and/or vendor-item lists. In an illustrative example embodiment, a number of data structures accessible by the data storage interface module(s) **220** will be described in greater detail in connection with FIG. **7**.

The authentication interface module(s) **230** is a hardware-implemented module that facilitates authenticating and authorizing devices that are communicatively coupled with the listing system **150**. In operation, the authentication interface module(s) **230** receives authentication requests from a number of devices, such as, but not limited to, the user device **110** and/or the vendor server(s) **130** of FIG. **1**. In example embodiments, an authentication request is a data communication that is indicative of a request for authentication and includes authentication data. For example, authentication data includes identifier (e.g., a user or vendor identifier) and credential (e.g., password) data.

In example embodiments, the authentication interface module(s) **230** facilitates single-sign-on functionality. For example, the authentication interface module(s) **230** receives authentication data from the user **106**, as part of a first sign-on process, to support authentication of the user **106** to receive services of one or more vendor server **130**. The authentication data supplied by the user **106** is then used by the authentication interface module(s) **230** to support the authentication of the user **106** to one or more vendor servers **130**.

The authentication interface module(s) **230** uses the authentication data in a number of ways to authenticate the user **106** with one or more vendors **130**. For example, the authentication interface module(s) **230** passes authentication data directly to one or more vendor server **130** as part of a second sign-on process. The authentication interface module(s) **230** uses the authentication information to retrieve other user identification and user credential information stored within the listing system **150**. The other user identification and user credential information are used as authentication for one or more vendor server **130**. The authentication interface module(s) **230** stores and caches the authentication data and use the authentication data at a time a request for vendor services is made by the user **106**.

An example embodiment, the authentication interface module(s) **230** performs the authentication process. It will be appreciated, however, that in alternative example embodiments, the authentication interface module(s) **230** interfaces with a third-party authentication service (not shown) connected to the network **102** that performs the authentication process and returns the results to the authentication interface module(s) **230**. Examples of third party services include authentication services provided by EBAY™, GOOGLE™, FACEBOOK™, LINKEDIN™, MICROSOFT™, SAP™, and so forth. In this way, the user **106** provides a user name and password that are shared by another service as a way to log into the listing system **150**.

The authentication interface module(s) **230** grants access to listing services provided by the listing system **150**. In example embodiments, the access can be restricted access to protect privacy. For example, the authentication interface module(s) **230** grants the user device **110** access to a user

account linked to the authentication data provided by the user device **110**, and denies access to user accounts not linked to the authentication data provided by the user device **110**. Similarly, the authentication interface module(s) **230** grants the vendor server(s) **130** access to a vendor account linked (e.g., via a vendor identifier) to the authentication data provided by the vendor server(s) **130**, and denies access to vendor accounts not linked to the authentication data provided by the user device **110**.

Additionally or alternatively, the authentication interface module(s) **230** grants an authenticated vendor server **130** access to portions of the selected-item lists of registered users. The portions correspond to the selected items of the authenticated vendor server **130** but not selected items of other registered vendors. In this way, the registered vendor determines a number of instances that a given vendor item has been added to selected-item lists and/or push notifications to the registered users that have added the registered vendor's items. The authentication interface module(s) **230** will be described in greater detail later in connection with FIGS. **3** and **8**.

The list management module(s) **240** is a hardware-implemented module that facilitates maintaining the selected-item lists of the registered users of the listing system **150**. In operation, the list management module(s) **240** can receive a number of requests from registered users and registered vendors. For example, the list management module(s) **240** receives add-item, remove-item, edit-item, share-item, and the like requests from registered users. The list management module(s) **240** receives notify-users and query requests from registered vendors. A notify user request is a request to provide a notification (e.g., an alert, promotion, discount, sale, and/or the like) to users having an identified item of the registered vendor and/or any items from the registered vendor within the registered user's selected-item list. The list management module(s) **240** will be described in greater detail later in connection with FIGS. **5-6** and **8**.

The notification management module(s) **250** is a hardware-implemented module that facilitates providing registered users notifications related to their respective selected-item lists. In operation, notification management module(s) **250** monitors for notification events related to items of the selected-item lists. Notification events trigger the notification management module(s) **250** to provide notification messages to one or more registered users. The list management module(s) **240** will be described in greater detail later in connection with FIGS. **8-11**.

In operation, the listing system **150** receives data from one or more vendor server **130** and the one or more user devices **110**, e.g., via the application interface module(s) **210**. The received data from the vendor server(s) **130** correspond to a number of inputs or requests related to, for example, authentication; creating or editing vendor accounts; adding, removing, and editing vendor-item lists; pushing notifications to registered users; and/or requesting analytics, as described below in greater detail.

Additionally or alternatively, the received data from the user devices **110** correspond to a number of inputs or requests related to, for example, authentication; creating or editing user accounts; adding, removing, or editing selected-item lists; sharing data (e.g., sharing selected items and/or notifications); and/or requesting delivery, as described below in greater detail.

Example methods of operation of the modules **210-250** will be described in greater detail later in connection with FIGS. **8-11**.

FIGS. **3-6** are interface diagrams illustrating example user interfaces **300**, **400**, **500**, **600** of a web resource with

multiple display elements delivered to the user device **110** by the listing system **150**, according to an example embodiment. As used herein, a web resource corresponds to data and/or code delivered to the user device **110** over the network **104** to render a webpage, or to be processed and/or rendered by a software application executing on the user device **110**.

FIG. **3** is an interface diagram illustrating a user interface **300** including the user device **110** rendering a sign-in frame **310**. For example, the listing system **150** provides the sign-in frame **310** to the user device **110** in response to the user device **110** requesting or accessing a web resource that provides listing services supported by the listing system **150**. Examples of the requesting or accessing of the web resource includes launching a software application to be executed on the user device **110** and/or requesting a webpage that interfaces with the listing system **150**. User input received by the sign-in frame **310** from the registered user is transmitted to the listing system **150**.

In one example embodiment, the accessing or requesting of the web resource corresponds to initiating listing services from a website of an authorized vendor such that an authorized registered user adds selected items displayed on the website of the registered vendor to the registered user's selected-item list. Additionally or alternatively, the accessing or requesting of the web resource corresponds to starting a software application executing on the user device **110**. The software application provides authenticated registered users access to the listing services of the listing system **150** and accesses vendor-item lists of one or more registered vendors. Accordingly, the software application presents interfaces to the authenticated registered user that provide access the listing services through a single application.

In the illustrated example embodiment of FIG. **3**, the sign-in frame **310** includes interface elements **312**, **314** for receiving user input to generate an authentication request. The interface element **312** receives data corresponding to a user identifier, such as a username. The interface element **314** receives data, such as a password, that is usable to validate the user of the user device **110** as the registered user. Furthermore, the sign-in frame **310** includes control elements **316**, **318**. The control element **316** is user-selectable to cause the user device **110** to provide the listing system **150** an authentication request. For example, the authentication request includes the data received by the interface elements **312**, **314**. The control element **318** is user-selectable to cause the user device **110** to cancel the access to the web resource. An example method of authentication will be described in greater detail later in connection with FIG. **8**.

FIG. **4** is an interface diagram illustrating a user interface **400** including the user device **110** rendering a first frame **410** of the web resource providing listing services. In an example embodiment, the first frame **410** corresponds to a display, such as a "home screen," of a software application or web application interfaced with the listing system **150**. The first frame **410** is presented to the registered user in response to a successful authentication process, e.g., initiated via the user interface **300** of FIG. **3**. User input received by the first frame **410** from the registered user is transmitted to the listing system **150**.

The first frame **410** includes a number of control elements **412-418** that are user-selectable to access features and/or display information of the listing system **150**. For example, the control element **412** is selected by the registered user to access a user interface displaying listing information regarding the user's selected-item list. The listing information is displayed in a variety of formats, as will be described in

greater detail later in connection with FIGS. **5** and **6**. The control element **414** is selected by the registered user to access notifications features. The control element **416** is selected by the registered user to access calendar features. The control element **418** is selected by the registered user to access group or social features. User input received by the control elements **412-418** is transmitted by the user device **110** to the listing system **150** over the network **104**.

In example embodiments, the control element **414** is selected by the user to access notifications messages received by the user device **110**. The control element **416** is selected by the user to access calendar features. For example, selection of the control element **416** causes the first frame **410** to present a calendar view with a number of calendar events depicted. The calendar events correspond to scheduled appointments, meetings, and/or the like events. Calendar event data can be synced from a calendar application of a third-party application.

The control element **418** can be selected by the user to access group or social features. For example, selection of the control element **418** causes the first frame **410** to present a list of groups of registered users, within each of which are selected-item lists that are shared by the members of the group. The group is formed based on a social network and/or a social graph relationship structure. For example, in example embodiments, a registered user can select which members of the group to receive notification messages from or to share notification messages with.

Notification attributes that define notification events are created in a number ways. For example, while adding an item to selected-item list, a registered user is prompted to define a notification event or not. If the registered user selects to create a notification event, a menu is presented to the user to provide a number of choices to the registered user. For example, the registered user chooses between a location-based (e.g., GPS) trigger and an event-based (e.g., calendar data) trigger. Alternatively, a notification event is created by the registered user selecting a display element (e.g., an image of the item) that represents the selected item of the item list in order to create a notification event linked to the item. In example embodiments, examples of notification events include a sale, price change, quantity availability, or other characteristics that can affect either the decision to purchase or the timing of a purchase.

If the registered user selects a location-based trigger, the user device **110** presents to the registered user an interface display having an element for receiving user input to specify a threshold distance. For instance, if the listing system **150** detects that the registered user is within a threshold distance of the store having the selected item in inventory, the listing system **150** provides the registered user a notification message. In some example embodiments, if the registered user does not provide a distance, a default value will be used (e.g., a 2 mile radius). The default value can be user selectable. Furthermore, the registered user can select threshold distances on individual item and/or store basis. In this way, the registered user prioritizes purchases.

If the registered user selects an event-based trigger, then the user device **110** presents a calendar that the registered user uses to associate calendar notifications with items from the selected-item list. In this way, items, occasions, and notifications are presented on a common interface.

FIG. **5** is an interface diagram illustrating a user interface **500** including the user device **110** rendering a second frame **510** of the web resource providing listing services. In an example embodiment, the second frame **510** corresponds to a display of a software application or web application

interfaced with the listing system 150. The listing system 150 provides data to the user device 110 to render the second frame 510 in response to the listing system 150 receiving an indication that the user selected the control element 412 of FIG. 4 to request a display of the registered user's selected-item list. User input received by the second frame 510 from the registered user is transmitted to the listing system 150.

The second frame 510 includes a number of display elements 512A-D and a control element 514. The display elements 512A-D correspond to items of the selected-item list linked to the registered user. The control element 514 is selectable by the registered user to control the organization of the displayed display elements 512A-D, search the selected-item list of the registered user, and/or to filter the selected-item list of the registered user to select which types of items to display within the second frame 510.

FIG. 6 is an interface diagram illustrating a user interface 600 including the user device 110 rendering a third frame 610 of the web resource providing listing services. In an example embodiment, the third frame 610 corresponds to a display of a software application or web application interfaced with the listing system 150. The listing system 150 provides data to the user device 110 to render the third frame 610 in response to the listing system 150 receiving an indication that the registered user selected the control element 514 of FIG. 5. User input received by the third frame 610 from the registered user is transmitted to the listing system 150.

The third frame 610 includes a number of control elements 612-618 that can be selected by the registered user to control the display of the display elements 512A-D. Accordingly, the user device 110, in response to receiving user input of a selection of one of the control elements 612-618, displays the second frame 510 with the display elements 512A-D organized and/or filtered in accordance with the selection of the selected control element 612-618. For example, the control element 612 is selectable by the registered user to organize the display elements 512A-D by the one or more registered vendors. In this way, the items of the selected-item list that are linked to a first registered vendor are grouped together within the second frame 510, the items of the selected-item list that are linked to a second registered vendor are grouped together within the second frame 510, and so forth.

Additionally or alternatively, the third frame 610 includes the control element 614 that is selectable by the registered user to organize the display elements 512A-D by item types (e.g., types of clothing, accessories, electronics, collectables, antiques, etc.). In this way, the items of the selected-item list that are linked to a first item type are grouped together within the second frame 510, the items of the selected-item list that are linked to a second item type are grouped together within the second frame 510, and so forth.

Additionally or alternatively, the third frame 610 includes the control element 616 that is selectable by the registered user to organize the display elements 512A-D by price, e.g., by ascending and/or descending order, e.g., as a flat list or grouped by price ranges (\$0-\$10, \$10-\$50, \$50-\$105, and so forth).

Additionally or alternatively, the third frame 610 includes the control element 618 that is selectable by the registered user to organize the display elements 512A-D by displaying items of the selected-item list that are on sale or have some other promotional offer associated with the items.

FIG. 7 is a block diagram illustrating an example data memory system 700 including a number of data structures of the listing system 150, in accordance with an example

embodiment. The data memory system 700 includes one or more user account 702, one or more vendor account 704, one or more selected item record 706, and one or more vendor item record 708. It will be appreciated that the data of the data memory system 700 are stored together or separately in a number of data storage devices by one or more components of the client-server-based network architecture 100. In an example embodiment, the data memory system 700 is stored by the database(s) 126 of FIG. 1. The data storage interface module(s) 220 (FIG. 2) of the listing system 150 accesses the data memory system 700.

Respective user accounts 702 includes a user identifier data field 710, a selected-item list data field 712, a device identifiers data field 714, and a shared data field 716. The user identifier data field 710 includes data that link a registered user to a particular one of the user accounts 702. Furthermore, the user identifier data field 710 include credential data (e.g., passwords, token based identifier, and/or biometric data indicative of one or more of the user's fingerprint, palm veins, face, deoxyribonucleic acid, palm print, hand geometry, iris pattern, or voice pattern) that are used by the listing system 150 to process authentication requests and verify the identity of the user of the user device 110. The selected-item list data field 712 includes (or reference to) one or more of the selected item records 706, which will be described in greater detail below. The device identifiers data field 714 includes one or more device identifiers of one or more user devices (e.g., user device 110) linked to the corresponding registered user. In an example embodiment, the device identifiers include data that is usable by the listing system 150 to address the corresponding user devices 110 over the network 104.

The shared data field 716 includes data that indicates sharing privileges of the registered user and one or more other registered users. For example, the shared data field 716 includes data that indicates that the registered user is sharing one or more selected item records 706 and/or one or more items from the selected item records 706 with another registered user. Additionally or alternatively, the shared data field 716 includes data that is indicative of sharing notifications with another user who may be a registered user or may not be a registered user. In the case that the second user is not a registered user, the shared data field 716 includes data (e.g., email address, phone number for a text message, etc.) that is usable to address the second user.

Respective vendor accounts 704 includes a vendor identifier data field 720, a vendor-item list data field 722, and a store data field 724. The vendor identifier data field 720 includes data that link a registered vendor to a particular one of the vendor accounts 704. Furthermore, the vendor identifier data field 720 includes authentication data that are used by the listing system 150 to process authentication requests by registered vendors and verify the identity of the user of the vendor server(s) 130. The vendor-item list data field 722 includes or reference one or more of the vendor item record 708, which will be described in greater detail below. The store data field 724 includes data that is indicative of one or more attributes of store locations of the registered vendor. For example, the store data field 724 includes data that is indicative of store locations, store inventories, the approximate locations of items of the store inventory within the store, and the like attributes.

Respective selected item records 706 include an item identifier data field 730, a vendor identifier data field 732, an item information data field 734, and a notification attribute data field 736. The item identifier data field 730 includes data that are used to identify a vendor item of a given

registered vendor. The vendor identifier data field **732** includes data that are used to identify a particular registered vendor. Accordingly, in example embodiments, the item identifier data field **730** and the vendor identifier data field **732** are used together to uniquely identify a vendor item and a registered vendor.

The item information data field **734** include data that is indicative of one or more characteristics and/or attributes of the item identified by the item identifier data field **730** and the vendor identifier data field **732**. Examples of characteristics and/or attributes include an image, quantity, size, item type, price, sales, discounts, offers, and/or the like data to describe the selected item.

The notification attribute data field **736** includes one or more attributes that are indicative of one or more notification events. As stated, notification events are location-based and/or event-based. For example, in example embodiments, attributes that are location-based indicate a threshold distance from store locations of the registered vendor identified by the vendor identifier data field **732** or from any suitable locations specified by the registered user. As such, the listing system **150** provides to the corresponding authorized user a notification when the registered user (or shared contact) is within the threshold distance from the specified location, such as a store location of the registered vendor. Additionally or alternatively, in example embodiments, attributes that are event-based correspond to a date, a calendar event (e.g., a birthday of the user or of a contact, an anniversary, business trip, vacation, and so forth), a reoccurring day/time (e.g., Mondays at 3:00 PM, the first Saturday of each month, every 30 days, and so forth). Additionally or alternatively, event-based attributes include sales or other events that impact purchase price, availability (e.g., a selected item becomes available or its local inventory becomes less than a predetermined threshold), and/or the like characteristics that affect a user's ability to acquire the item and/or affects the timing of a user's decision to purchase. In response to the date or event occurring, the listing system **150** provides to the corresponding authorized user a notification.

Respective vendor item records **708** include an item identifier data field **740** and an item information data field **742**. The item identifier data field **740** and the item information data field **742** includes data similar to the data that was described above in connection with the item identifier data field **730** and the item information data field **734**, respectively.

FIG. **8** is a flowchart illustrating an example method **800** of providing notifications, in accordance with an example embodiment. In this example, the method **800** includes operations such as authenticating a user device (block **810**), updating a selected items list (block **820**), detecting a notification event (block **830**), and providing a notification message (block **840**). The example method **800** will be described below, by way of explanation, as being performed by certain modules. It will be appreciated, however, that the operations of the example method **800** can be performed in any suitable order by any number of the modules shown in FIG. **2**.

In an example embodiment, the method **800** starts at block **810**, in which the authentication interface module(s) **230** authenticates a user of a user device, such as the user **106** of the user device **110** of FIG. **1**. In operation, the authentication includes the authentication interface module(s) **230** receiving an authentication request from the user device **110**. The authentication request corresponds to a request for authorization to access listing services of a web resource. The authentication request includes authentication data,

such as a user identifier and a password or other credential. As stated, the web resource corresponds to a software application executing on the user device that is communicatively coupled to the listing system **150** via the network **104**, and/or the web resource corresponds to data and/or code (e.g., webpage data) to render a website on the user device. Example interfaces of the web resource were described above in connection with FIGS. **3-6**.

In example embodiments, the user device **110** renders a user interface (e.g., as described in connection with FIG. **3**) for receiving authentication data from the user **106** and initiating the authentication process. The listing system **150** receives authentication data from the user device **110** via the API server **120** (e.g., where the user device **110** executes an application-based program supporting listing services) and/or via the web server **122** (e.g., where the user device **110** displays a webpage supporting listing services of the listing system **150**). For example, the authentication request is generated, for example, by the user device **110** and sent to the listing system **150** based on the user device receiving authentication data from the interface elements **312**, **314** and, in response to, receiving a user selection of the control element **316** of FIG. **3**.

By way of an illustrative non-limiting example, the authentication request will be described below in the example context of being generated by a webpage of an online marketplace of a registered vendor. For instance, to access listing services within the online marketplace, the webpage of the online marketplace includes a sign-in component (e.g., interface **300**) to facilitate authentication of the user **106** of the user device **110**, and the vendor server **130** sends authentication requests to the listing system **150**. In turn, the listing system **150** processes the authentication requests and provides to the vendor server **130** the results (e.g., pass or fail) of the authentication. If an authentication request passes, the vendor server **130** enables the listing services of the online marketplace for the user **106**.

Example embodiments of the processing of the authentication request includes selecting user account data and verifying that the credentials of the authentication request matches an expected value stored in the selected user account data. For example, the authentication interface module(s) **230** selects a user account **702** that has an identifier stored within the user identifier field **710** that matches the user identifier of the authentication request. Furthermore, the listing system **150** compares the credential (e.g., password) of the authentication request with the credential (e.g., password) stored within the user identifier data field **710** of the selected user account **702** to determine whether the authentication request passes authentication. For example, authentication passes if the user identifier and password of the authentication request matches the user identifier and authentication data stored in the user identifier data field **710**. Matching is determined based on direct matching or indirectly based on passing the credential of the request and/or the authentication request using a mapping function (e.g., a hash function).

In response to a determination that the user authentication request passes authentication, the authentication interface module(s) **230** authenticates the user device to a server of the registered vendor. For example, the listing system **150** returns to the vendor server **130** data indicative of passing authentication that causes the vendor server **130** to enable on the user device **110** graphical interface elements (e.g., user-selectable control elements) that are associated vendor items. The control elements are each be selectable to gen-

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erate add-item requests that are sent to the listing system **150** to add the associated vendor item to the selected-item list of the user.

As described above, the user **106** initiates the authentication process via a website of a registered vendor. It will be appreciated that in example embodiments the user **106** generates authentication requests in a number of additional or alternative ways. For example, the online marketplace links the online marketplace to the listing system **150** such that when the user **106** requests to sign in for listing services, the online marketplace transfers the user **106** to the listing system **150** for authentication. That is, in example embodiments, the listing system **150** provides a webpage (e.g., user interface **300**) to the user **106** for authenticating the user **106** instead of the online marketplace of the vendor server **130**. Thus, the listing system **150** directly prompts the user **106** for authentication requests, receives authentication requests, processes authentication requests, and provides to the vendor server **130** the results (e.g., pass or fail) of the authentication. In another example, an application (e.g., a software application for a mobile device and/or a desktop computer) executed on the user device **110** provides a GUI (e.g., user interface **300**) to the user **106** for authenticating the user **106**. The application corresponds to a software application dedicated to an online marketplace (e.g., an application for a particular vendor) and/or an application for providing direct access to the listing system **150** (e.g., a so-called “wishlist app”). The listing server **150** receives authentication data from the application, processes the application data, and returns the results to the application.

In example embodiments, the listing system **150** provides authentication-certificate data to the user device **110** as a way to authenticate the user **106** of the user device **110** with one or more different web resources (such as different websites of a number of registered vendors). That is, the authentication-certificate data serves as an authentication “passport” that authorizes access to listing services deployed on a number of different web resources. For example, the authentication of the user **106** of the user device **110** with the server of the registered vendor includes providing to the user device **110** an authentication-certificate usable to provide the user device **110** access to listing features of web resources of a plurality of registered vendors. In this way, the listing system **150** provides a single-sign-in feature that allows registered users to sign in once and then access multiple different web resources without signing in again.

The authentication interface module(s) **230** also serves to authenticate registered vendors. For example, in operation, the authentication interface module(s) **230** receives a vendor authentication request from the vendor server(s) **130**. In response, the authentication interface module(s) **230** determines whether the vendor authentication request passes authentication. The determination of whether an authentication passes is based on matching the vendor identifier data field **720** (which includes a vendor identifier and credential data) to the vendor identifier and credential data included in the vendor authentication request. Furthermore, in response to a determination that the vendor authentication request passes authentication, the authentication interface module(s) **230** authenticates the vendor server(s) **130** to allow the vendor server(s) **130** data linked to the vendor account, as de.

In example embodiments, authenticated vendor server(s) **130** accesses data and/or services that are linked to the selected item records **706** that correspond to a vendor item (e.g., a vendor item record **708**) of the registered vendor. For example, registered vendors push notifications (e.g., sales,

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discounts, offers, and/or the like alerts) to registered users that have vendor items linked (e.g., added to a selected-item list) to the respective registered vendors. Additionally or alternatively, the listing system **150** (e.g., via the list management module(s) **240**) provides analytics data to a registered vendor, where the analytics regard, e.g., a number of registered users that have vendor items of the registered vendor included in their selected-item list data field **712** and/or the number of selected vendor items of the registered vendor that have been included in the selected item records **706**. In example embodiments, the analytics provide no indication of selection of the vendor items from other registered vendors.

The authentication interface module(s) **230** can protect the privacy of the registered users and vendors. For example, in example embodiments, the authentication interface module(s) **230** presents to a registered user a privacy setting that is selected to prevent the selected-item list data field **712** from being shared with other registered users and/or registered vendors without the registered users permission. Additionally or alternatively, the authentication interface module(s) **230** presents to the registered vendors a privacy setting that is selected to prevent data related to their vendor-item lists from being shared with other registered vendors.

As stated, the web resources generate an add-item request in response to user input received by authorized user devices. For example, a number of vendor items are displayed on the user interface of the user device with an associated interface control element (such as a selectable user interface button) that is activated by a registered user to request adding of the selected vendor item to the selected-item list that is linked to the registered user. Accordingly, the add-item request is linked to the corresponding vendor item. In example embodiments, the add-item request includes a user identifier (e.g., data that can be matched to the identifier of the user identifier data field **710** to identify a user account **702**), a vendor identifier (e.g., data that can be matched to the identifier of the vendor identifier data field **720** to identify the vendor account **704**), and an item identifier (e.g., data that can be matched to the identifier of the item identifier data field **740** to identify the selected vendor item **708**).

At block **820**, the list management module(s) **240**, in response to the add-item request, updates the selected-item list data field **712** to include the selected item of the vendor-item list. To this end, the list management module(s) **240** uses the user identifier, vendor identifier, and item identifier of the add-item request to identify and select the user account **702**, the vendor account **704**, and the user-selected vendor item **708** of the add-item request.

Additionally, the list management module(s) **240** updates the selected-item list data field **712** to include a notification attribute linked to the selected item. The notification attribute is, for example, location-based or event-based, as described above in connection with FIG. 7. In example embodiments, a notification attribute includes a number of key-values pairs or tuples that specify the parameters of the notification attribute.

For example, a location-based attribute includes a number of parameters, including for example, a distance threshold. Accordingly, an example location-based attribute includes a key-value pair (“distance”, “10 miles”) as a parameter that specifies a notification event occurs if the user is within 10 miles of a store location of the registered vendor and if the store location has the selected vendor item in inventory. In another example, the location-based attribute additionally includes a key-value pair (“price”, “\$50”) as a parameter

that specifies that the notification event occurs if the store location also sells the selected vendor item for \$50 or less.

An event-based attribute includes a number of parameters, including for example, a day and time. Accordingly, an example event-based attribute includes a year-month-day-time tuple, such as (2015, 12, 01, 8:00) as a parameter that specifies a notification event occurs on Dec. 1, 2015 at 8:00 AM. In another example, an example event-based attribute includes an event identifier that is usable to identify stored events of a digital calendar. The digital calendar is stored for example, by the user device **110** or accessible by the user device **110** over the Internet. In example embodiments, a notification attribute includes both location-based attributes and event-based attributes.

The notification attribute is defined either based on user input received by the listing system **150** and/or by a default value if the registered user does not specify a notification attribute. For example, in response to the user selecting a vendor item to be added to the selected-item list within a web resource of an online marketplace, the user device **110** displays an interface for the user to specify notification attributes. For example, the user enters in the threshold distance into a text input box to define a location-based attribute, and the user enters event-based attributes by selecting dates/events of an interface displaying a calendar. The user device **110** provides to the listing system **150** the user input. If no user input is provided, the listing service **150** uses a default notification attribute, such as a location-based attribute specifying a threshold distance of a predetermined value (e.g., 3 miles).

At block **830**, the notification management module **250** detects whether a notification event of the item has occurred. The notification event is determined at least partly based on the notification attribute. Example embodiments of methods of the block **830** will be described in connection with FIGS. **9-11**.

At block **840**, the notification management module(s) **250**, in response to a detection of a notification event of the first item, provides notification messages to the one or more user devices linked to the user account. The notification management module(s) **250** pushes notification messages to the one or more user devices and/or transmits the notification messages in response to the one or more user devices pulling the messages. As stated, in example embodiments, the notification message includes a control element that is user-selectable to share the notification message with a second registered user.

The notification management module(s) **250** pushes notification messages based at least partly on the device identifiers data field **714** of the user account **702**. For example, the device identifiers data field **714** is usable to determine addresses (e.g., IP addresses and/or phone number) of the one or more user devices of the registered user over the network **104**. For example, the notification management module(s) **250** accesses the user account **702** and determines the addresses of the user devices based on the device identifiers data field **714**. In turn, the notification management module(s) **250** provides the notification message to the one or more user devices based on the determined addresses.

After block **840**, the method **800** ends.

FIG. **9** is a flowchart illustrating an example method of detecting a notification event of FIG. **8**, in accordance with an example embodiment. Elements common to FIGS. **8** and **9** share common reference indicia, and only differences between the figures are described herein for the sake of brevity. The example block **830A** performs detection of a notification event that is specified by a location-based noti-

fication attribute. That is, a notification event corresponds to the registered user being within a predetermined threshold of one of the store locations of the registered vendor. The method of the example block **830A** includes operations such as receiving user location data (block **910**), determining whether a store location is within a threshold distance (block **920**), and determining whether an inventory of the store includes the first item (block **940**). The method of the example block **830A** will be described below, by way of explanation, as being performed by certain modules. It will be appreciated, however, that the operations of the method of the example block **830A** can be performed in any suitable order by any number of the modules shown in FIG. **2**.

At block **910**, the notification management module(s) **250** receives user location data indicative of the registered user's location. The user location data correspond to GPS location data generated by the user device, such as the user device **110** of FIG. **1**, and that is sent to the notification management module(s) **250**. At block **920**, the notification management module(s) **250** determines whether a store location is within a threshold distance of the first registered user's location. At block **930**, the block **830A** ends in response to a determination that no store is within the threshold distance; on the other hand, in response to a determination that there is a store location within a threshold distance, the block **830A** moves to block **940** for determining whether an inventory of the store includes the first item. For example, the data storage interface module(s) **220** accesses the store data field **724** to access inventory data and determine whether or not an item identifier in the inventory data matches an item identifier of the first item. In the case that there is a match, the notification management module(s) **250** makes a determination that a notification event of the first item has been detected. In turn, the method of the example block **830A** continues to block **840**. In example embodiments, the example block **830A** repeats blocks **920-940** for each item of the registered user's selected-item list (e.g., as represented by the selected-item list data field **712**).

In example embodiments, a first user and a second user can create a relationship to share data within the listing system **150** in a number of ways, e.g., as described in connection with FIG. **10**. For example, the first user can create a relationship by authorizing the listing system **150** to access contact information (e.g., contacts stored on the user device **110**, an email account, a social network website, and so forth) to facilitate the creation of groups and/or "circles." As an illustrative example, the first user selects the second user from a contact list stored on the first user's mobile phone to form a group to share location and/or selected-item-list data. The first user can select one or more additional users to include in the group. The group can have a social network or a social graph (or circle) structure. The first user can select to share one or more list items (e.g., items included in a selected-items list of the first user) and/or location data to share with the group. In this way, members of the group have access to data that is indicative of the shared list items and/or location of the first user.

In example embodiments, as stated, the location of the first user can be shared with the second user and/or the group. For instance, as a particular illustrative example, a first user elects to share his location (e.g., by making his location data accessible) with a group of contacts. In operation, the first user visits (or is within a threshold distance of) a store location of a registered vendor. A second user of the group receives a notification from the listing system **150** if the second user has selected the registered vendor to request receiving notifications when another user visits a store

location of the registered vendor. An example of the notification can include text such as “Hi Second User, First User here! I’m in Registered Vendor. Do you want anything here?”

Furthermore, in example embodiments, the second user can elect to share vendor items from the second user’s selected-item list with the first user and/or the group. In the particular illustrative example, the listing system **150** can provide the second user a notification including “Hi Second User, First User here! I’m in Registered Vendor. Do you want this particular item from your wishlist/anything from here.”

FIG. **10** is a flowchart illustrating an example method of detecting a notification event of FIG. **8**, in accordance with an example embodiment. Elements common to FIGS. **8** and **10** share common reference indicia, and only differences between the figures are described herein for the sake of brevity. The example block **830B** performs detection of a location-based notification event. In particular, the notification event is triggered by a second user being within a predetermined threshold of a store location. The registered user of the method **800** will be referred to as the first registered user. This type of detection facilitates sharing and cooperation between multiple users. The notification message sent to the first user indicates that the second authorized user is near the first item and/or a store location of a registered vendor. Additionally, the notification message includes control elements that facilitate the first authorized user sending information regarding the first item and its location to the second authorized user.

The method of the example block **830B** includes operations such as receiving user location data (block **1010**), determining whether a store location is within a threshold distance (block **1020**), and determining whether an inventory of the store includes the first item (block **1040**). The method of the example block **830B** will be described below, by way of explanation, as being performed by certain modules. It will be appreciated, however, that the operations of the method of the example block **830B** can be performed in any suitable order by any number of the modules shown in FIG. **2**.

At block **1010**, the notification management module(s) **250** receives user location data indicative of a second registered user’s location. The second registered user is a user that the first registered user has shared at least a portion of the first user’s selected-item list. For example, the first registered user selects a number of items from the selected-item list data field **712** to share with the second registered user. In example embodiments, the second registered user accepts or declines the share request. The location data of the second registered user correspond to GPS location data generated by the second registered user’s user device, such as a second user device **110** of FIG. **1**. The notification management module(s) **250** receives the location data from the user device of the second registered user via the network **104**.

At block **1020**, the notification management module(s) **250** determines whether a store location is within a threshold distance of the second registered user’s location. At block **1030**, the block **830B** ends in response to a determination that no stores are within the threshold distance; otherwise, in response to a determination that there is a store location within the threshold distance, the method of the example block **830B** moves to block **1040** for determining whether an inventory of the store includes the first item. The block **1040** can be performed in similar manner as described above in connection with block **940** of FIG. **9**. In the case that there

is a match, the notification management module(s) **250** makes a determination that a notification event of the first item has been detected. In turn, the method of the example block **830B** continues to block **840** for sending a notification message to the user device of the first registered user. In example embodiments, the example block **830B** repeats blocks **1020-1040** for each item of the first registered user’s selected-item list (e.g., as represented by the selected-item list data field **712**) that has been shared with the second registered user (e.g., as represented by the shared data field **716**).

Additionally or alternatively, in example embodiments, the notification management module(s) **250** sends a notification message to the first registered user based on location data of the first registered user relative to store locations linked to an item of the second registered user. This type of detection facilitates sharing and gifting between multiple users. For example, the shared data field **716** includes data that is indicative of a request by the first registered user to allow the second registered user to generate notification messages for the first registered user. As a non-limiting illustrative example, the first registered user corresponds to the child of the second registered user. In this situation, the parent (e.g., the second registered user creates a selected-item list on the parent’s user device so that the child (e.g., the first registered user) receives a notification to pick up selected groceries when the child walks near a selected grocery chain (e.g., a registered vendor).

Accordingly, the notification management module **250** receives user location data that is indicative of a second registered user’s location and determine whether a store location is within a threshold distance of the second registered user’s location. In response to a determination that a store location is within a threshold distance of the second registered user’s location, the notification management module **250** receives inventory data of the store location and determine whether the inventory data includes a first item of the first user’s selected-item list data field **712**. In response to a determination that the inventory data includes the first item, the notification management module(s) **250** provides a notification message to a user device of the second registered user.

FIG. **11** is a flowchart illustrating an example method of detecting a notification event of FIG. **8**, in accordance with an example embodiment. Elements common to FIGS. **8** and **11** share common reference indicia, and only differences between the figures are described herein for the sake of brevity. The example block **830C** performs detection of a notification event when the notification attribute is based on a calendar event. The method of the example block **830C** includes operations such as accessing current event data (block **1110**) and determining whether the current event data matches the notification attributes (block **1112**). The method of the example block **830C** will be described below, by way of explanation, as being performed by certain modules. It will be appreciated, however, that the operations of the method of the example block **830C** can be performed in any suitable order by any number of the modules shown in FIG. **2**.

At block **1110**, the notification management module(s) **250** accesses current event data, such as a current date and time. At block **1120**, the notification management module(s) **250** determines whether the current event data matches the notification attributes of the first item. For example, the notification attribute specifies a target date and time. As

such, the current event data matches the notification attributes if the current time is equal to or is later than the target date and time.

The notification management module(s) **250** creates a notification attribute based on a calendar time. For example, in response to receiving an add item request from a registered user, the notification management module(s) **250** accesses calendar data that is indicative of a calendar event. Examples of calendar events include a target date and time, a birthday, a reoccurring date (e.g., the first Monday of each month), and the like. Calendar data are provided by a third party application, such as a third-party social network application or software (e.g., profession productivity software). The notification management module(s) **250** receives user input from the user device that is indicative of a request to link the calendar event to the first item. In response, the notification management module(s) **250** updates the calendar data by linking the first item to the calendar event. A notification attribute is indicative of the calendar data that is linked to the first item is stored in the notification attribute data field **736** of the corresponding selected item record **706**.

Certain embodiments are described herein as including logic or a number of components, modules, or mechanisms. Modules may constitute either software modules (e.g., code embodied on a machine-readable medium) or hardware modules. A “hardware module” is a tangible unit capable of performing certain operations and may be configured or arranged in a certain physical manner. In various example embodiments, one or more computer systems (e.g., a stand-alone computer system, a client computer system, or a server computer system) or one or more hardware modules of a computer system (e.g., a processor or a group of processors) may be configured by software (e.g., an application or application portion) as a hardware module that operates to perform certain operations as described herein.

In some embodiments, a hardware module may be implemented mechanically, electronically, or any suitable combination thereof. For example, a hardware module may include dedicated circuitry or logic that is permanently configured to perform certain operations. For example, a hardware module may be a special-purpose processor, such as a Field-Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) or an Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC). A hardware module may also include programmable logic or circuitry that is temporarily configured by software to perform certain operations. For example, a hardware module may include software executed by a general-purpose processor or other programmable processor. Once configured by such software, hardware modules become specific machines (or specific components of a machine) uniquely tailored to perform the configured functions and are no longer general-purpose processors. It will be appreciated that the decision to implement a hardware module mechanically, in dedicated and permanently configured circuitry, or in temporarily configured circuitry (e.g., configured by software) may be driven by cost and time considerations.

Accordingly, the phrase “hardware module” should be understood to encompass a tangible entity, be that an entity that is physically constructed, permanently configured (e.g., hardwired), or temporarily configured (e.g., programmed) to operate in a certain manner or to perform certain operations described herein. As used herein, “hardware-implemented module” refers to a hardware module. Considering embodiments in which hardware modules are temporarily configured (e.g., programmed), each of the hardware modules need not be configured or instantiated at any one instance in time. For example, where a hardware module comprises a general-

purpose processor configured by software to become a special-purpose processor, the general-purpose processor may be configured as respectively different special-purpose processors (e.g., comprising different hardware modules) at different times. Software accordingly configures a particular processor or processors, for example, to constitute a particular hardware module at one instance of time and to constitute a different hardware module at a different instance of time.

Hardware modules can provide information to, and receive information from, other hardware modules. Accordingly, the described hardware modules may be regarded as being communicatively coupled. Where multiple hardware modules exist contemporaneously, communications may be achieved through signal transmission (e.g., over appropriate circuits and buses) between or among two or more of the hardware modules. In embodiments in which multiple hardware modules are configured or instantiated at different times, communications between such hardware modules may be achieved, for example, through the storage and retrieval of information in memory structures to which the multiple hardware modules have access. For example, one hardware module may perform an operation and store the output of that operation in a memory device to which it is communicatively coupled. A further hardware module may then, at a later time, access the memory device to retrieve and process the stored output. Hardware modules may also initiate communications with input or output devices, and can operate on a resource (e.g., a collection of information).

The various operations of example methods described herein may be performed, at least partially, by one or more processors that are temporarily configured (e.g., by software) or permanently configured to perform the relevant operations. Whether temporarily or permanently configured, such processors may constitute processor-implemented modules that operate to perform one or more operations or functions described herein. As used herein, “processor-implemented module” refers to a hardware module implemented using one or more processors.

Similarly, the methods described herein may be at least partially processor-implemented, with a particular processor or processors being an example of hardware. For example, at least some of the operations of a method may be performed by one or more processors or processor-implemented modules. Moreover, the one or more processors may also operate to support performance of the relevant operations in a “cloud computing” environment or as a “software as a service” (SaaS). For example, at least some of the operations may be performed by a group of computers (as examples of machines including processors), with these operations being accessible via a network (e.g., the Internet) and via one or more appropriate interfaces (e.g., an Application Program Interface (API)).

The performance of certain of the operations may be distributed among the processors, not only residing within a single machine, but deployed across a number of machines. In some example embodiments, the processors or processor-implemented modules may be located in a single geographic location (e.g., within a home environment, an office environment, or a server farm). In other example embodiments, the processors or processor-implemented modules may be distributed across a number of geographic locations.

The modules, methods, applications and so forth described in conjunction with FIGS. 2-11 are implemented in some embodiments in the context of a machine and an associated software architecture. The sections below

describe representative software architecture(s) and machine (e.g., hardware) architecture that are suitable for use with the disclosed embodiments.

Software architectures are used in conjunction with hardware architectures to create devices and machines tailored to particular purposes. For example, a particular hardware architecture coupled with a particular software architecture will create a mobile device, such as a mobile phone, tablet device, or so forth. A slightly different hardware and software architecture may yield a smart device for use in the “internet of things,” while yet another combination produces a server computer for use within a cloud computing architecture. Not all combinations of such software and hardware architectures are presented here as those of skill in the art can readily understand how to implement the inventive subject matter in different contexts from the disclosure contained herein.

FIG. 12 is a block diagram 1200 illustrating a representative software architecture 1202, which may be used in conjunction with various hardware architectures herein described. FIG. 12 is merely a non-limiting example of a software architecture and it will be appreciated that many other architectures may be implemented to facilitate the functionality described herein. The software architecture 1202 may be executing on hardware such as machine 1300 of FIG. 13 that includes, among other things, processors 1310, memory/storage 1330, and FO components 1350. A representative hardware layer 1204 is illustrated and can represent, for example, the machine 1300 of FIG. 13. The representative hardware layer 1204 comprises one or more processing units 1206 having associated executable instructions 1208. Executable instructions 1208 represent the executable instructions of the software architecture 1202, including implementation of the methods, modules and so forth of FIGS. 2-11, as described below. Hardware layer 1204 also includes memory and/or storage modules 1210, which also have executable instructions 1208. Hardware layer 1204 may also comprise other hardware as indicated by 1212 that represents any other hardware of the hardware layer 1204, such as the other hardware illustrated as part of machine 1300.

In the example of FIG. 12, the software architecture 1202 may be conceptualized as a stack of layers where each layer provides particular functionality. For example, the software architecture 1202 may include layers such as an operating system 1214, libraries 1216, frameworks/middleware 1218, applications 1220 and presentation layer 1244. Operationally, the applications 1220 and/or other components within the layers may invoke application programming interface (API) calls 1224 through the software stack and receive a response, returned values, and so forth illustrated as messages 1226 in response to the API calls 1224. The layers illustrated are representative in nature; not all software architectures have all layers. For example, some mobile or special purpose operating systems may not provide a frameworks/middleware 1218, while others may provide such a layer. Other software architectures may include additional or different layers.

The operating system 1214 may manage hardware resources and provide common services. The operating system 1214 may include, for example, a kernel 1228, services 1230, and drivers 1232. The kernel 1228 may act as an abstraction layer between the hardware and the other software layers. For example, the kernel 1228 may be responsible for memory management, processor management (e.g., scheduling), component management, network-

provide other common services for the other software layers. The drivers 1232 may be responsible for controlling or interfacing with the underlying hardware. For instance, the drivers 1232 may include display drivers, camera drivers, Bluetooth® drivers, flash memory drivers, serial communication drivers (e.g., Universal Serial Bus (USB) drivers), Wi-Fi® drivers, audio drivers, power management drivers, and so forth depending on the hardware configuration.

The libraries 1216 may provide a common infrastructure that may be utilized by the applications 1220 and/or other components and/or layers. The libraries 1216 typically provide functionality that allows other software modules to perform tasks in an easier fashion than to interface directly with the underlying operating system 1214 functionality (e.g., kernel 1228, services 1230 and/or drivers 1232). The libraries 1216 may include system libraries 1234 (e.g., C standard library) that may provide functions such as memory allocation functions, string manipulation functions, mathematical functions, and the like. In addition, the libraries 1216 may include API libraries 1236 such as media libraries (e.g., libraries to support presentation and manipulation of various media format such as MPREG4, H.264, MP3, AAC, AMR, JPG, PNG), graphics libraries (e.g., an OpenGL framework that may be used to render 2D and 3D in a graphic content on a display), database libraries (e.g., SQLite that may provide various relational database functions), web libraries (e.g., WebKit that may provide web browsing functionality), and the like. The libraries 1216 may also include a wide variety of other libraries 1238 to provide many other APIs to the applications 1220 and other software components/modules.

The frameworks/middleware 1218 (also sometimes referred to as middleware) may provide a higher-level common infrastructure that may be utilized by the applications 1220 and/or other software components/modules. For example, the frameworks/middleware 1218 may provide various graphic user interface (GUI) functions, high-level resource management, high-level location services, and so forth. The frameworks/middleware 1218 may provide a broad spectrum of other APIs that may be utilized by the applications 1220 and/or other software components/modules, some of which may be specific to a particular operating system or platform.

The applications 1220 include built-in applications 1240, third party applications 1242, and/or a listing application 1243. Examples of representative built-in applications 1240 may include, but are not limited to, a contacts application, a browser application, a book reader application, a location application, a media application, a messaging application, and/or a game application. Third party applications 1242 may include any of the built-in applications 1240 as well as a broad assortment of other applications. In a specific example, the third party application 1242 (e.g., an application developed using the Android™ or iOS™ software development kit (SDK) by an entity other than the vendor of the particular platform) may be mobile software running on a mobile operating system such as iOS™, Android™, Windows® Phone, or other mobile operating systems. In this example, the third party application 1242 may invoke the API calls 1224 provided by the mobile operating system such as operating system 1214 to facilitate functionality described herein. The listing application 1243 can include executable instructions of the implementation of the methods, modules, and so forth of FIGS. 2-11. In this example, the listing application 1243 invokes the API calls 1224

provided by the mobile operating system, such as operating system **1214**, to facilitate functionality described in connection with FIGS. **2-11**.

The applications **1220** may utilize built in operating system functions (e.g., kernel **1228**, services **1230** and/or drivers **1232**), libraries (e.g., system libraries **1234**, API libraries **1236**, and other libraries **1238**), and frameworks/middleware **1218** to create user interfaces to interact with users of the software architecture **1202**. Alternatively, or additionally, in some systems, interactions with a user may occur through a presentation layer, such as presentation layer **1244**. In these systems, the application/module “logic” can be separated from the aspects of the application/module that interact with a user.

As stated, in the illustrated example embodiment, the applications **1220** deploy the modules **210-250** of the listing system. It will be appreciated, however, that the modules **210-250** of the listing system **150** can be implemented in one or more of the operating system **1214**, the libraries **1216**, the frameworks/middleware **128**, the applications **1220**, and the presentation layer **1244** in alternative example embodiments. Additionally or alternatively, additional or fewer layers can exist in alternative embodiments. For example, in a mobile device (e.g., user device **110**), fewer layers may exist (for example, the frameworks/middleware layer **1218** may not exist), so for mobile devices at least portions of the modules **210-230** illustrated in FIG. **2** can be implemented as the listing application **1243** in conjunction with libraries and operating system services. In a server device (e.g., application server **140**), additional layers may exist (for example, networking, security, encryption, and/or virtualization layers may exist), so for server devices at least portions of the modules **210-250** illustrated in FIG. **2** can be implemented as the listing application **1243** in conjunction with these additional layers as well as the middleware, libraries, and operating system services.

Some software architectures utilize virtual machines. In the example of FIG. **12**, this is illustrated by virtual machine **1248**. A virtual machine creates a software environment where applications/modules can execute as if they were executing on a hardware machine (such as the machine of FIG. **13**, for example). A virtual machine is hosted by a host operating system (operating system **1214** in FIG. **13**) and typically, although not always, has a virtual machine monitor **1246**, which manages the operation of the virtual machine **1248** as well as the interface with the host operating system (i.e., operating system **1214**). The software architecture **1202** executes within the virtual machine such as an operating system **1250**, libraries **1252**, frameworks/middleware **1254**, applications **1256** and/or presentation layer **1258**. These layers of software architecture **1202** executing within the virtual machine **1248** can be the same as corresponding layers previously described or may be different.

FIG. **13** is a block diagram illustrating components of a machine **1300**, according to some example embodiments, able to read instructions from a machine-readable medium (e.g., a machine-readable storage medium) and perform any one or more of the methodologies discussed herein. Specifically, FIG. **13** shows a diagrammatic representation of the machine **1300** in the example form of a computer system, within which instructions **1316** (e.g., software, a program, an application, an applet, an app, or other executable code) for causing the machine **1300** to perform any one or more of the methodologies discussed herein may be executed. For example the instructions **1316** may cause the machine **1300** to execute the flow diagrams of FIG. **8-11**. Additionally, or alternatively, the instructions **1316** may

implement the modules **210-250** of FIG. **2**. The instructions **1316** transform the general, non-programmed machine into a particular machine programmed to carry out the described and illustrated functions in the manner described. In alternative embodiments, the machine **1300** operates as a stand-alone device or may be coupled (e.g., networked) to other machines. In a networked deployment, the machine **1300** may operate in the capacity of a server machine or a client machine in a server-client network environment, or as a peer machine in a peer-to-peer (or distributed) network environment. The machine **1300** may comprise, but not be limited to, a server computer, a client computer, a personal computer (PC), a tablet computer, a laptop computer, a netbook, a set-top box (STB), or any machine capable of executing the instructions **1316**, sequentially or otherwise, that specify actions to be taken by machine **1300**. Further, while only a single machine **1300** is illustrated, the term “machine” shall also be taken to include a collection of machines **1300** that individually or jointly execute the instructions **1316** to perform any one or more of the methodologies discussed herein.

The machine **1300** may include processors **1310**, memory/storage **1330**, and I/O components **1350**, which may be configured to communicate with each other such as via a bus **1302**. In an example embodiment, the processors **1310** (e.g., a Central Processing Unit (CPU), a Reduced Instruction Set Computing (RISC) processor, a Complex Instruction Set Computing (CISC) processor, a Graphics Processing Unit (GPU), a Digital Signal Processor (DSP), an Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC), a Radio-Frequency Integrated Circuit (MC), another processor, or any suitable combination thereof) may include, for example, processor **1312** and processor **1314** that may execute instructions **1316**. The term “processor” is intended to include multi-core processor that may comprise two or more independent processors (sometimes referred to as “cores”) that may execute instructions contemporaneously. Although FIG. **13** shows multiple processors **1310**, the machine **1300** may include a single processor with a single core, a single processor with multiple cores (e.g., a multi-core process), multiple processors with a single core, multiple processors with multiples cores, or any combination thereof.

The memory/storage **1330** may include a memory **1332**, such as a main memory or other memory storage, and a storage unit **1336**, both accessible to the processors **1310** such as via the bus **1302**. The storage unit **1336** and memory **1332** store the instructions **1316** embodying any one or more of the methodologies or functions described herein. The instructions **1316** may also reside, completely or partially, within the memory **1332**, within the storage unit **1336**, within at least one of the processors **1310** (e.g., within the processor’s cache memory), or any suitable combination thereof, during execution thereof by the machine **1300**. Accordingly, the memory **1332**, the storage unit **1336**, and the memory of processors **1310** are examples of machine-readable media.

As used herein, “machine-readable medium” means a device able to store instructions and data temporarily or permanently and may include, but is not be limited to, random-access memory (RAM), read-only memory (ROM), buffer memory, flash memory, optical media, magnetic media, cache memory, other types of storage (e.g., Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory (EEPROM)) and/or any suitable combination thereof. The term “machine-readable medium” should be taken to include a single medium or multiple media (e.g., a centralized or distributed database, or associated caches and servers) able to store instructions

1316. The term “machine-readable medium” shall also be taken to include any medium, or combination of multiple media, that is capable of storing instructions (e.g., instructions **1316**) for execution by a machine (e.g., machine **1300**), such that the instructions, when executed by one or more processors of the machine **1300** (e.g., processors **1310**), cause the machine **1300** to perform any one or more of the methodologies described herein. Accordingly, a “machine-readable medium” refers to a single storage apparatus or device, as well as “cloud-based” storage systems or storage networks that include multiple storage apparatus or devices. The term “machine-readable medium” excludes signals per se.

The I/O components **1350** may include a wide variety of components to receive input, provide output, produce output, transmit information, exchange information, capture measurements, and so on. The specific I/O components **1350** that are included in a particular machine will depend on the type of machine. For example, portable machines such as mobile phones will likely include a touch input device or other such input mechanisms, while a headless server machine will likely not include such a touch input device. It will be appreciated that the I/O components **1350** may include many other components that are not shown in FIG. **13**. The I/O components **1350** are grouped according to functionality merely for simplifying the following discussion, and the grouping is in no way limiting. In various example embodiments, the I/O components **1350** may include output components **1352** and input components **1354**. The output components **1352** may include visual components (e.g., a display such as a plasma display panel (PDP), a light emitting diode (LED) display, a liquid crystal display (LCD), a projector, or a cathode ray tube (CRT)), acoustic components (e.g., speakers), haptic components (e.g., a vibratory motor, resistance mechanisms), other signal generators, and so forth. The input components **1354** may include alphanumeric input components (e.g., a keyboard, a touch screen configured to receive alphanumeric input, a photo-optical keyboard, or other alphanumeric input components), point based input components (e.g., a mouse, a touchpad, a trackball, a joystick, a motion sensor, or other pointing instrument), tactile input components (e.g., a physical button, a touch screen that provides location and/or force of touches or touch gestures, or other tactile input components), audio input components (e.g., a microphone), and the like.

In further example embodiments, the I/O components **1350** may include biometric components **1356**, motion components **1358**, environmental components **1360**, or position components **1362** among a wide array of other components. For example, the biometric components **1356** may include components to detect expressions (e.g., hand expressions, facial expressions, vocal expressions, body gestures, or eye tracking), measure biosignals (e.g., blood pressure, heart rate, body temperature, perspiration, or brain waves), identify a person (e.g., voice identification, retinal identification, facial identification, fingerprint identification, or electroencephalogram based identification), and the like. The motion components **1358** may include acceleration sensor components (e.g., accelerometer), gravitation sensor components, rotation sensor components (e.g., gyroscope), and so forth. The environmental components **1360** may include, for example, illumination sensor components (e.g., photometer), temperature sensor components (e.g., one or more thermometer that detect ambient temperature), humidity sensor components, pressure sensor components (e.g., barometer), acoustic sensor components (e.g., one or more

microphones that detect background noise), proximity sensor components (e.g., infrared sensors that detect nearby objects), gas sensors (e.g., gas detection sensors to detection concentrations of hazardous gases for safety or to measure pollutants in the atmosphere), or other components that may provide indications, measurements, or signals corresponding to a surrounding physical environment. The position components **1362** may include location sensor components (e.g., a Global Position System (GPS) receiver component), altitude sensor components (e.g., altimeters or barometers that detect air pressure from which altitude may be derived), orientation sensor components (e.g., magnetometers), and the like.

Communication may be implemented using a wide variety of technologies. The I/O components **1350** may include communication components **1364** operable to couple the machine **1300** to a network **1380** or devices **1370** via coupling **1382** and coupling **1372** respectively. For example, the communication components **1364** may include a network interface component or other suitable device to interface with the network **1380**. In further examples, communication components **1364** may include wired communication components, wireless communication components, cellular communication components, Near Field Communication (NFC) components, Bluetooth® components (e.g., Bluetooth® Low Energy), Wi-Fi® components, and other communication components to provide communication via other modalities. The devices **1370** may be another machine or any of a wide variety of peripheral devices (e.g., a peripheral device coupled via a Universal Serial Bus (USB)).

Moreover, the communication components **1364** may detect identifiers or include components operable to detect identifiers. For example, the communication components **1364** may include Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag reader components, NFC smart tag detection components, optical reader components (e.g., an optical sensor to detect one-dimensional bar codes such as Universal Product Code (UPC) bar code, multi-dimensional bar codes such as Quick Response (QR) code, Aztec code, Data Matrix, Data-glyph, MaxiCode, MHZ-117, Ultra Code, UCC RSS-2D bar code, and other optical codes), or acoustic detection components (e.g., microphones to identify tagged audio signals). In addition, a variety of information may be derived via the communication components **1364**, such as location via Internet Protocol (IP) geo-location, location via Wi-Fi signal triangulation, location via detecting a NFC beacon signal that may indicate a particular location, and so forth.

In various example embodiments, one or more portions of the network **1380** may be an ad hoc network, an intranet, an extranet, a virtual private network (VPN), a local area network (LAN), a wireless LAN (WLAN), a wide area network (WAN), a wireless WAN (WWAN), a metropolitan area network (MAN), the Internet, a portion of the Internet, a portion of the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), a plain old telephone service (POTS) network, a cellular telephone network, a wireless network, a Wi-Fi® network, another type of network, or a combination of two or more such networks. For example, the network **1380** or a portion of the network **1380** may include a wireless or cellular network and the coupling **1382** may be a Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) connection, a Global System for Mobile communications (GSM) connection, or other type of cellular or wireless coupling. In this example, the coupling **1382** may implement any of a variety of types of data transfer technology, such as Single Carrier Radio Transmission Technology (1xRTT), Evolution-Data Opti-

mized (EVDO) technology, General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) technology, Enhanced Data rates for GSM Evolution (EDGE) technology, third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) including 3G, fourth generation wireless (4G) networks, Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS), High Speed Packet Access (HSPA), Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMAX), Long Term Evolution (UM standard, others defined by various standard setting organizations, other long range protocols, or other data transfer technology.

The instructions **1316** may be transmitted or received over the network **1380** using a transmission medium via a network interface device (e.g., a network interface component included in the communication components **1364**) and utilizing any one of a number of well-known transfer protocols (e.g., hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP)). Similarly, the instructions **1316** may be transmitted or received using a transmission medium via the coupling **1372** (e.g., a peer-to-peer coupling) to devices **1370**. The term, “transmission medium,” shall be taken to include any intangible medium that is capable of storing, encoding, or carrying instructions **1316** for execution by the machine **1300**, and includes digital or analog communications signals or other intangible medium to facilitate communication of such software.

Throughout this specification, plural instances may implement components, operations, or structures described as a single instance. Although individual operations of one or more methods are illustrated and described as separate operations, one or more of the individual operations may be performed concurrently, and nothing requires that the operations be performed in the order illustrated. Structures and functionality presented as separate components in example configurations may be implemented as a combined structure or component. Similarly, structures and functionality presented as a single component may be implemented as separate components. These and other variations, modifications, additions, and improvements fall within the scope of the subject matter herein.

Although an overview of the inventive subject matter has been described with reference to specific example embodiments, various modifications and changes may be made to these embodiments without departing from the broader scope of embodiments of the present disclosure. Such embodiments of the inventive subject matter may be referred to herein, individually or collectively, by the term “invention” merely for convenience and without intending to voluntarily limit the scope of this application to any single disclosure or inventive concept if more than one is, in fact, disclosed.

The embodiments illustrated herein are described in sufficient detail to enable those skilled in the art to practice the teachings disclosed. Other embodiments may be used and derived therefrom, such that structural and logical substitutions and changes may be made without departing from the scope of this disclosure. The Detailed Description, therefore, is not to be taken in a limiting sense, and the scope of various embodiments is defined only by the appended claims, along with the full range of equivalents to which such claims are entitled.

As used herein, the term “or” may be construed in either an inclusive or exclusive sense. Moreover, plural instances may be provided for resources, operations, or structures described herein as a single instance. Additionally, boundaries between various resources, operations, modules, engines, and data stores are somewhat arbitrary, and particular operations are illustrated in a context of specific illustrative configurations. Other allocations of functionality

are envisioned and may fall within a scope of various embodiments of the present disclosure. In general, structures and functionality presented as separate resources in the example configurations may be implemented as a combined structure or resource. Similarly, structures and functionality presented as a single resource may be implemented as separate resources. These and other variations, modifications, additions, and improvements fall within a scope of embodiments of the present disclosure as represented by the appended claims. The specification and drawings are, accordingly, to be regarded in an illustrative rather than a restrictive sense.

What is claimed is:

1. A system for managing a user database in an electronic commerce computing network, the system comprising:
 - one or more processors;
 - a network communication interface;
 - memory including instructions that, upon execution by the one or more processors, cause the system to perform operations comprising:
 - accessing a vendor account of a registered vendor and a first user account of a first user, the vendor account linked to a vendor-item database, the first user account linked to the user database and to one or more user devices coupled to the system through the network communication interface, respective items of the user database corresponding to items of the vendor-item database, the user database being stored on a computing server at a remote location from the one or more user devices;
 - authenticating a first user device of the one or more user devices to authorize access to listing services of a web resource of the registered vendor, the web resource being configured to generate an add-item request in response to user input from the first user device operated by the first user, the add-item request being linked to a first item stored in the vendor-item database;
 - in response to receiving the add-item request from the first user device operated by the first user;
 - presenting a first user interface for defining a notification attribute, the first user interface comprising a location-based trigger option and an event-based trigger option, selection of the location-based trigger option causing presentation of a second user interface that allows the first user to enter a threshold distance into a text box for generating a location-based notification, and selection of the event-based trigger option causing presentation of a third user interface comprising a calendar that includes a plurality of events from which the first user selects an event to trigger generation of an event-based notification;
 - updating the user database to include the first item and the notification attribute;
 - associating the user database with a second user device of the one or more user devices, the second user device being operated by a second user;
 - generating a notification event associated with the first item in response to detecting, based on the notification attribute, that the second user device operated by the second user is within the threshold distance of a store that includes the first item in an inventory of the store, the second user device being remote from the first user device;
 - in response to generating the notification event responsive to the second user device operated by the second user being within the threshold distance of the store that includes the first item in the inventory of the store,

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providing a notification to the first user device operated by the first user, the notification including a message with text that specifies that the second user device is within the threshold distance of the store that includes the first item in the inventory of the store.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the operations further comprise:

presenting, as the first user interface, a prompt to the first user while the first user is adding a given item to an item list, the prompt allowing the first user to select a type of notification from a plurality of types to receive in relation to the added given item, the plurality of types comprising the location-based notification and the event-based notification.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the notification attribute is based on a calendar event, the operations further comprising:

accessing calendar data indicative of the calendar event; receiving user input indicative of a request to link the calendar event to the first item; and updating the calendar data by linking the first item to the calendar event.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the add-item request is generated in response to scanning the first item or tag of the first item in-store using a camera or sensor of the first user device.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the operations further comprise:

in response to receiving a user authentication request from the first user device, determining whether the user authentication request passes authentication, the user authentication request being linked to the first user account; and

in response to a determination that the user authentication request passes authentication, authenticating the first user device to a server of the registered vendor that provides graphical interface data to display the first item and an associated control element selectable to generate add-item requests.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the operations further comprise presenting a user privacy setting enabling the first user to prevent selected information from the user database comprising the first item from being shared with other users.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the operations further comprise presenting to the registered vendor a vendor privacy setting that prevents data related to the vendor-item database of the registered vendor from being shared with other vendors.

8. The system of claim 5, herein the operations further comprise:

in response to receiving a vendor authentication request from the server of the registered vendor, determining whether the vendor authentication request passes authentication, the vendor authentication request being linked to the vendor; and

in response to a determination that the vendor authentication request passes authentication, authenticating the server of the registered vendor to access data linked to the vendor account.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the notification message includes a control element that is user-selectable to share the notification message with a third registered user.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the first user account includes device identifiers usable to address the one or more user devices of the first user over a network, wherein the providing of the notification message is based on the device identifiers, and wherein the operations further comprise

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defining a default threshold distance for triggering a notification when the second device is within the default threshold distance of the store that sells the first item in response to determining that user input has not previously been received to define the threshold distance.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein the memory including instructions further cause the system to provide the notification message to the one or more user devices linked to the first user account by causing the system to:

access the first user account; determine addresses of the user devices based on the device identifiers; and provide the notification message to the one or more user devices based on the determined addresses.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein the operations further comprise:

receiving user location data indicative of a location of the second user;

determining whether a location of the store is within the threshold distance of the location of the second user; in response to a determination that the location of the store is within the threshold distance, receiving inventory data of the store;

determining whether the inventory data includes the first item; and

in response to a determination that the inventory data includes the first item, providing the notification message to the first user device.

13. The system of claim 1, wherein the operations further comprise:

allowing the first user to prioritize purchases based on threshold distances, wherein a first threshold distance is defined for a second item to trigger a first notification when the second user device is within the first threshold distance of a first store that sells the second item, and wherein a second threshold distance is defined for a third item to trigger a second notification when the second user device is within the second threshold distance of a second store that sells the third item.

14. A method for operating a user database in an electronic commerce computing network, the method comprising:

accessing a vendor account of a registered vendor and a first user account of a first user, the vendor account linked to a vendor-item database, the first user account linked to the user database and to one or more user devices coupled to the system through the network communication interface, respective items of the user database corresponding to items of the vendor-item database, the user database being stored on a computing server at a remote location from the one or more user devices;

authenticating a first user device of the one or more user devices to authorize access to listing services of a web resource of the registered vendor, the web resource being configured to generate an add-item request in response to user input from the first user device operated by the first user, the add-item request being linked to a first item stored in the vendor-item database;

in response to receiving the add-item request from the first user device operated by the first user;

presenting a first user interface for defining a notification attribute, the first user interface comprising a location-based trigger option and an event-based trigger option, selection of the location-based trigger option causing presentation of a second user interface that allows the first user to enter a threshold distance into a text box for

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generating a location-based notification, and selection of the event-based trigger option causing presentation of a third user interface comprising a calendar that includes a plurality of events from which the first user selects an event to trigger generation of an event-based notification;

updating the user database to include the first item and the notification attribute;

associating the user database with a second user device of the one or more user devices, the second user device being operated by a second user;

generating a notification event associated with the first item in response to detecting, based on the notification attribute, that the second user device operated by the second user is within the threshold distance of a store that includes the first item in an inventory of the store, the second user device being remote from the first user device;

in response to generating the notification event responsive to the second user device operated by the second user being within the threshold distance of the store that includes the first item in the inventory of the store, providing a notification to the first user device operated by the first user, the notification including a message with text that specifies that the second user device is within the threshold distance of the store that includes the first item in the inventory of the store.

15. The method of claim **14**, herein the operations further comprise:

presenting, as the first user interface, a prompt to the first user while the first user is adding a given item to an item list, the prompt allowing the first user to select a type of notification from a plurality of types to receive in relation to the added given item, the plurality of types comprising the location-based notification and the event-based notification.

16. The method of claim **14**, wherein the notification attribute is based on a calendar event, the method further comprising:

accessing calendar data indicative of the calendar event; receiving user input indicative of a request to link the calendar event to the first item; and

updating the calendar data by linking the first item to the calendar event.

17. The method of claim **14**, wherein the add-item request is generated in response to scanning the first item or tag of the first item in-store using a camera or sensor of the first user device.

18. A device-readable storage medium embodying instructions that, when executed by a device, cause the device to perform operations comprising:

accessing a vendor account of a registered vendor and a first user account of a first user, the vendor account linked to a vendor-item database, the first user account linked to a user database and to one or more user devices coupled through a network, respective items of the user database corresponding to items of the vendor-item database, the user database being stored on a computing server at a remote location from the one or more user devices;

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authenticating a first user device of the one or more user devices to authorize access to listing services of a web resource of the registered vendor, the web resource being configured to generate an add-item request in response to user input from the first user device operated by the first user, the add-item request being linked to a first item stored in the vendor-item database;

in response to receiving the add-item request from the first user device operated by the first user:

presenting a first user interface for defining a notification attribute, the first user interface comprising a location-based trigger option and an event-based trigger option, selection of the location-based trigger option causing presentation of a second user interface that allows the first user to enter a threshold distance into a text box for generating a location-based notification, and selection of the event-based trigger option causing presentation a third user interface comprising a calendar that includes a plurality of events from which the first user selects an event to trigger generation of an event-based notification; and updating the user database to include the first item and the notification attribute;

associating the user database with a second user device of the one or more user devices, the second user device being operated by a second user;

generating a notification event associated with the first item in response to detecting, based on the notification attribute, that the second user device operated by the second user is within the threshold distance of a store that includes the first item in an inventory of the store, the second user device being remote from the first user device; and

in response to generating the notification event responsive to the second user device operated by the second user being within the threshold distance of the store that includes the first item in the inventory of the store, providing a notification to the first user device operated by the first user, the notification including a message with text that specifies that the second user device is within the threshold distance of the store that includes the first item in the inventory of the store.

19. The device-readable storage medium of claim **18**, wherein the operations further comprise defining a default threshold distance for triggering a notification when the second device is within the default threshold distance of the store that sells the first item in response to determining that user input has not previously been received to define the threshold distance.

20. The device-readable storage medium of claim **18**, wherein the operations further comprise:

allowing the first user to prioritize purchases based on threshold distances, wherein a first threshold distance is defined for a second item to trigger a first notification when the second user device is within the first threshold distance of a first store that sells the second item, and wherein a second threshold distance is defined for a third item to trigger a second notification when the second user device is within the second threshold distance of a second store that sells the third item.

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